

The **All India Women's Conference (AIWC)** is one of the oldest and most prominent women's organizations in India. Here's a detailed overview:

All India Women's Conference (AIWC)

Founded:

1927, in Pune, India

Founders and Early Leaders:

- **Margaret Cousins** (Irish theosophist and educationist)
- **Dorothy Jinarajadasa**
- Indian reformers like **Sarojini Naidu, Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay, Annie Besant**, and others played key roles.

Objective:

To work for the **upliftment and empowerment of women** through education, social reform, and legal rights.

Main Focus Areas:

1. **Women's Education**
 - Primary goal at the time of its formation.
 - Established schools, colleges, vocational training centers.
2. **Legal Rights & Social Reform**
 - Advocated for changes in personal laws (especially Hindu Code Bill).
 - Fought against child marriage, purdah system, dowry, and for women's suffrage.
3. **Health & Welfare**
 - Health education, maternal care, nutrition programs.
4. **Economic Empowerment**
 - Vocational training, self-help groups, entrepreneurship support.
5. **Environmental Awareness**
 - Promotes sustainable practices and eco-friendly initiatives.

Reach and Structure:

- **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
- Over **500 branches** across the country.
- Runs **schools, hostels, training centers, creches, and counseling units**.

Significance:

- Played a **pioneering role** in the Indian women's movement.
- Took part in **freedom struggle**, and post-independence worked to shape women's policy in India.
- Consultative status with the **United Nations ECOSOC**.

Modern Activities:

- Advocacy on gender equality and women's rights.
- Participation in national and international conferences.
- Workshops, seminars, and publications on women's issues.

Notable Achievements:

- Influenced legislation in **Hindu Marriage Act**, **Child Marriage Restraint Act**, and **Dowry Prohibition Act**.
- Instrumental in setting up **National Commission for Women**.

Here's a **timeline** of the **All India Women's Conference (AIWC)**, highlighting its major milestones from its inception to the present day:

Timeline of All India Women's Conference (AIWC)

1927 – Founding

- AIWC is founded in **Pune** by **Margaret Cousins**, an Irish theosophist and women's rights activist.
- Aim: Promote **women's education** and **social reform** in India.
- First conference held with representatives from across India.

1930s – Expansion & Social Reform

- AIWC expands its network across India.
- Campaigns begin against **child marriage**, **purdah system**, and **dowry**.
- Becomes a key platform for **elite and reform-minded women** to engage in activism.
- Begins **advocacy for legal reforms** in marriage and inheritance laws.

1940s – Freedom Movement and Legal Advocacy

- AIWC supports the **Indian freedom struggle** and women's participation in the independence movement.
- Engages in drafting proposals for **women's rights in independent India**.
- Members contribute to the debates on the **Hindu Code Bill**, advocating for women's equality in marriage and inheritance.

1950s – Post-Independence Impact

- Strongly supports the passage of:
 - **Hindu Marriage Act (1955)**
 - **Hindu Succession Act (1956)**
- Works on promoting **education**, **literacy**, and **vocational training** for women.

1960s–1970s – National Presence & UN Status

- AIWC grows into one of the largest women's organizations in India.

- Granted **consultative status** with the **United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**.
- Expands into **healthcare, nutrition, and rural women's empowerment**.

1980s – Legislative Influence

- Participates in national debates around:
 - **Dowry Prohibition Act**
 - **Equal Remuneration Act**
 - **Criminal Law reforms** to protect women
- Launches programs for **legal literacy** and support for victims of violence.

1990s – Global Engagement

- Attends international conferences, including the **1995 Beijing World Conference on Women**.
- Increases work on **environmental awareness** and **sustainable development**.

2000s – Modernization & Capacity Building

- Begins digitizing services, setting up **help centers, helplines, and counseling services**.
- Focuses on **HIV/AIDS awareness, human trafficking, and gender sensitization**.

2010s–2020s – Contemporary Focus

- Expands into **cyber safety for women, financial literacy, and digital education**.
- Works on **climate change, disaster relief, and policy advocacy** at both national and international levels.

2025 – Today

- Continues as a major force in **women's rights advocacy** in India.
- Over **500 branches** nationwide.
- Actively engaged in **gender equality, policy lobbying, rural outreach, and collaboration with government and international agencies**.

Here's a detailed profile of **Margaret Cousins**, the remarkable woman who played a foundational role in the **All India Women's Conference (AIWC)** and contributed significantly to the women's movement in India and Ireland.

Margaret Cousins (1878–1954)

Also Known As: Gretta Cousins

- **Nationality:** Irish
- **Profession:** Educator, Theosophist, Suffragist, and Women's Rights Activist
- **Key Roles:**
 - Co-founder of the **All India Women's Conference (AIWC)**
 - One of the earliest **European women to take Indian citizenship**

- First woman magistrate in India

Early Life and Background

- **Born:** 7 November 1878 in **County Roscommon, Ireland**
- **Education:** Graduated from **Royal University of Ireland**
- Married **James Cousins**, an Irish poet and fellow theosophist, in 1903.
- Both were involved in the **Irish suffrage movement** and **Theosophical Society**.

Move to India

- The couple moved to India in **1915**, initially working at the **Theosophical Society** in Adyar, Chennai.
- Margaret became deeply involved in **social reform, education, and women's rights** in colonial India.

Contributions in India

1. Women's Education and Rights

- Advocated for **women's education** as the foundation of social change.
- Worked on **curriculum development** for girls' schools and colleges.

2. All India Women's Conference (1927)

- Co-founded the **AIWC**, which became a leading platform for women's advocacy.
- Helped organize the first meeting in Pune and was instrumental in framing its **constitution and goals**.

3. Suffrage and Legal Reform

- Supported **universal adult franchise** and **equal rights for women**.
- Advocated for **Hindu law reform**, especially concerning **marriage and inheritance**.

4. Magistrate Appointment

- Appointed **first woman magistrate in India (1922)** in **Madras Presidency**—a landmark moment in Indian legal history.

5. Musical Legacy

- She is said to have **transcribed the Indian national anthem "Jana Gana Mana" into Western musical notation**, helping it gain international recognition.

Global Engagement

- Attended **international women's conferences**, representing India.
- Promoted solidarity between Indian and Western feminist movements.
-

Writings and Thought

- Wrote extensively in journals and magazines about **women's issues, education, and Indian society.**
- Her ideas reflected a blend of **Indian nationalism, feminism, and spiritual theosophy.**

Death and Legacy

- **Died:** 11 March 1954, in India.
- Remembered as a **bridge between East and West**, and a **pioneering feminist** in both Ireland and India.

Legacy Highlights

- Founder of one of India's most powerful women's organizations (AIWC).
- Helped lay the foundation for **India's women's legal and political empowerment.**
- Honored in both Ireland and India as a **champion of women's rights and education.**

Here's a **detailed timeline** of **Margaret Cousins' life** (1878–1954), highlighting her major contributions to women's rights, education, and the social reform movements in **Ireland** and **India**.

Timeline of Margaret Cousins (1878–1954)

1878

- **Born on November 7** in **County Roscommon, Ireland** as **Margaret Elizabeth Gillespie.**
- Grew up in a Protestant Irish family, with early exposure to liberal and reformist ideas.

Early 1900s

- Studied at the **Royal University of Ireland**, one of the few higher education institutions open to women at the time.
- Became active in **women's suffrage** and **social reform movements** in Ireland.

1903

- Married **James Cousins**, an Irish poet, playwright, and fellow theosophist.
- Together, they engaged in the **Irish suffragist movement** and **literary circles.**

1906–1915

- Became a leading figure in the **Irish Women's Franchise League.**
- Edited feminist journals and advocated **votes for women** through non-violent methods.

1915

- **Moved to India** with her husband to work with **Annie Besant** and the **Theosophical Society** in **Adyar, Madras (Chennai)**.
- Became involved in **women's education, social reform, and theosophy**.

1916–1920

- Worked on the staff of **The New India**, Annie Besant's political and social reformist newspaper.
- Taught at **National Girls' School** and **Women's College**, promoting education for Indian women.

1922

- **Appointed as the first female magistrate in India**, in **Madras Presidency**.
- One of the **first European women to adopt Indian citizenship**.
- Marked a milestone in women's participation in the Indian legal system.

1927

- **Co-founded the All India Women's Conference (AIWC)** in Pune.
- Played a crucial role in organizing the **first conference**, writing its **constitution**, and shaping its **educational and legal reform goals**.

Late 1920s–1930s

- Traveled across India to **promote women's education, legal literacy, and social reform**.
- Participated in campaigns for **Hindu law reform, child marriage prohibition, and women's suffrage in India**.
- Advocated for **universal franchise** for Indian women.

1930s–1940s

- Served on **committees for education and women's welfare** under the British Raj.
- Represented Indian women in **international forums** and **UN-related events**.
- **Transcribed "Jana Gana Mana" (later the national anthem of India) into Western musical notation**, helping it gain wider recognition.

1950s

- Despite declining health, she continued her advocacy work and support for AIWC.
- Remained in India after independence (1947), showing deep commitment to the country and its people.

1954

- **Died on March 11, 1954, in Madras (now Chennai), India.**

- Left behind a legacy of **cross-cultural feminism**, **education reform**, and **women's rights activism** in both Ireland and India.

Legacy Summary:

- **Co-founder** of AIWC — a major milestone in India's women's movement.
- **First woman magistrate in India.**
- An **international feminist bridge** between Irish and Indian women's movements.
- Lifelong advocate for **non-violent social change**, **education**, and **gender equality**.

Here's a detailed profile of **Dorothy Jinarajadasa**, an important but often less well-known figure in the early Indian women's movement and a key contributor to the **All India Women's Conference (AIWC)**.

Dorothy Jinarajadasa (1882–1963)

Also Known As: Dorothy Graham - After marriage, **Dorothy Jinarajadasa**

- **Born:** 1882, Scotland
- **Died:** 1963, India
- **Nationality:** British (later associated with India through her work and marriage)
- **Profession:** Theosophist, feminist, writer, educationist
- **Known For:** Co-founding the **All India Women's Conference (AIWC)** and advocating **women's education** and **rights in India**

Early Life and Background

- Born as **Dorothy Graham** in Scotland.
- Educated in the liberal tradition of the **early 20th century British suffrage and social reform movements**.
- Became interested in **theosophy**, which eventually led her to India.

Marriage and Move to India

- Married **Curuppumullage Jinarajadasa**, a Sri Lankan theosophist and scholar who later became the **fourth international president of the Theosophical Society**.
- Moved to **India**, where both she and her husband became deeply involved in **spiritual and social reform work**.

Key Contributions in India

1. Women's Education

- Advocated for **compulsory education for girls**, especially in rural and conservative regions.
- Played a leading role in promoting **curriculum reform** that reflected gender equality.

2. All India Women's Conference (1927)

- Co-founder of the AIWC, along with **Margaret Cousins** and others.

- Helped **organize the first conference in Pune** and shape its educational and reformist agenda.
- Actively contributed to early discussions on **women's legal rights, marriage reform, and citizenship**.

3. Writing and Advocacy

- Wrote articles, essays, and speeches on **women's education, gender roles, and theosophy**.
- Called for **equal pay, women's access to professions, and abolition of discriminatory laws**.

4. Theosophical and Global Engagement

- Strongly involved in **Theosophical Society activities**.
- Believed in the **spiritual and moral upliftment** of women as part of social progress.
- Attended international conferences on **women's rights and education**

Philosophy and Vision

- Merged **spiritual belief (Theosophy)** with **practical activism**.
- Emphasized that **Indian women must lead their own emancipation**, though international support could help.
- Advocated **unity across religious and caste lines** for the cause of women's progress.

Death and Legacy

- **Died in 1963** in India.
- Though not as widely remembered as Margaret Cousins or Sarojini Naidu, she played a **foundational role** in shaping the **women's movement in India**.
- Remembered by AIWC as one of its **early visionaries** and **staunch advocates for women's education**.

Legacy and Recognition

- Credited as a **co-founder** of one of India's most influential women's organizations.
- Honored in historical accounts of the **early 20th-century feminist movement** in India.
- A symbol of **cross-cultural collaboration** in women's rights — a British-born woman committed to Indian social reform.

Here's a detailed look at **Dorothy Jinarajadasa's connection with Curuppumullage Jinarajadasa**, her husband, and their shared contributions to spiritual, educational, and social reform movements — especially within the **Theosophical Society** and early Indian feminism.

Dorothy & Curuppumullage Jinarajadasa: A Unique Intellectual and Spiritual Partnership

Who was Curuppumullage Jinarajadasa?

- **Born:** December 16, 1875, **Ceylon (now Sri Lanka)**
- **Died:** June 18, 1953, **India**
- **Nationality:** **Sri Lankan**
- **Profession:** Theosophist, writer, educator, philosopher
- **Claim to Fame:**
 - **Fourth International President** of the **Theosophical Society** (1946–1953)
 - Prolific author on **Theosophy, philosophy, ethics, and science**
 - Strong advocate for **global spiritual unity and education**

Marriage to Dorothy Graham (later Dorothy Jinarajadasa)

- They met through their mutual association with the **Theosophical Society**, likely in **England or India**.
- Married in the early 1900s — exact date not always cited but believed to be around **1906–1908**.
- Dorothy, originally **Scottish**, shared his deep interest in **Theosophy, education, and social reform**.
- After marriage, Dorothy adopted **his surname** and became a full partner in both his **spiritual work** and **activist vision**.

Their Shared Vision and Work

1. Theosophical Society

- Both were highly active members:
 - **Curuppumullage** held many senior positions, culminating in his role as **President** (1946–1953).
 - **Dorothy** worked on integrating **Theosophical principles** into **women's education and empowerment**.
- They believed in **universal brotherhood, spiritual unity, and the evolution of the soul** — ideas that influenced their work in India.

2. Education and Reform

- Both supported **progressive, values-based education**, particularly for women.
- Promoted **intercultural education** that included **Eastern philosophy, spirituality, and scientific thinking**.

3. Women's Rights and AIWC

- While Curuppumullage worked more on **spiritual and philosophical education**, **Dorothy took an active public role** in advancing **women's issues**.
- She was a **co-founder of the All India Women's Conference (1927)** and helped shape its early direction.

4. Cross-Cultural Harmony

- Their marriage symbolized a **cross-cultural partnership** — a **British woman and a Sri Lankan man** working together in **colonial India** for shared ideals.

- They defied racial and cultural expectations of the time by forging a **progressive, global alliance** rooted in **mutual respect and shared purpose**.

Legacy as a Couple

Dorothy Jinarajadasa	C. Jinarajadasa
Co-founder of AIWC	President of the Theosophical Society
Advocate for women's education	Philosopher and spiritual teacher
Active in legal and social reform for Indian women	Wrote over 50 books and pamphlets on Theosophy
Promoted cross-cultural feminism	Promoted spiritual unity across religions

Together, they:

- Advocated **progressive ideals** across **gender, race, and spiritual lines**.
- Left lasting impacts on **Indian civil society, global Theosophy, and women's movements**.

Final Years

- **C. Jinarajadasa** passed away in **1953**, and **Dorothy** died a decade later in **1963**, both in India.
- They are remembered as **visionaries** who combined **spiritual ideals with social action**.

Here's a set of **brief, focused notes** on **Sarojini Naidu, Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay, and Annie Besant**, specifically highlighting their **roles in the All India Women's Conference (AIWC)** and the broader **Indian women's movement**.

Brief Notes on Key Women Leaders and AIWC

Sarojini Naidu (1879–1949)

- **Poet, orator, and political leader**; known as the "**Nightingale of India**".
- **Role in AIWC:**
 - Early **supporter and speaker** at AIWC conferences.
 - Advocated for **women's political participation, education, and legal rights**.
- **Other Contributions:**
 - First Indian woman to become **President of the Indian National Congress (1925)**.
 - First woman to serve as **Governor of an Indian state** (United Provinces, now Uttar Pradesh).
 - Championed **women's suffrage, civil rights, and nationalist causes** alongside Gandhi.

Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay (1903–1988)

- **Social reformer, freedom fighter, and cultural revivalist**.
- **Role in AIWC:**

- **Key leader** in mobilizing grassroots women through AIWC networks.
- Promoted **economic empowerment** of women through **crafts, cooperatives, and entrepreneurship**.
- **Other Contributions:**
 - First Indian woman to run for **legislative office** (Madras, 1926).
 - Founded **Indian Cooperative Union, Sangeet Natak Akademi**, and played a major role in reviving Indian **handicrafts and theatre**.
 - Instrumental in **rehabilitating Partition refugees**, especially women.

Annie Besant (1847–1933)

- **British-born theosophist, educationist, and Indian independence activist.**
- **Role in AIWC:**
 - **Spiritual and ideological influence** behind many early AIWC leaders.
 - Advocated women's **education, self-rule, and social reform**.
 - Though not a formal founder, her work **laid the groundwork** for movements like AIWC.
- **Other Contributions:**
 - Founded the **Home Rule League** and became its first President.
 - Helped establish **Central Hindu College** (now part of BHU).
 - Encouraged Indian women to **organize, educate, and lead**.

Collective Impact on AIWC and Beyond

Name	AIWC Contribution	Broader Impact
Sarojini Naidu	Public face & speaker; political advocacy	Women's suffrage, INC leadership
Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay	Economic empowerment programs	Arts, culture, cooperatives
Annie Besant	Inspirational and ideological guide	Education, Home Rule, Theosophy

Here's a focused overview of **Sarojini Naidu, Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay, and Annie Besant** highlighting their **legislative and cultural contributions through the All India Women's Conference (AIWC)** and their broader roles in advancing women's rights and social reform in India.

Legislative and Cultural Contributions through AIWC

Sarojini Naidu

Legislative Contributions:

- Advocated for **women's suffrage and political participation** within AIWC and the Indian National Congress.
- Supported **constitutional reforms** granting voting rights to women in British India.
- Worked to influence the **Government of India Acts (1919 & 1935)** to include women's enfranchisement and representation.
- Encouraged **women's entry into legislative assemblies** and public office.

Cultural Contributions:

- Used her **oratory skills and poetry** to inspire nationalist and feminist sentiments.
- Promoted **women's education and literacy** as key to political empowerment.
- Integrated **Indian cultural identity** and heritage into women's activism, helping AIWC connect with diverse communities.
- Supported the inclusion of **Indian arts and literature** in AIWC programs to foster pride and unity.

Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay

Legislative Contributions:

- Campaigned for **labour rights and legal protections for women**, especially working-class and rural women.
- Advocated through AIWC for laws related to **women's employment, maternity benefits, and social welfare**.
- Promoted the **participation of women in cooperative societies**, which had legislative backing and policy implications.
- Engaged in policymaking forums to improve women's access to **economic opportunities**.

Cultural Contributions:

- Revived and promoted **traditional Indian handicrafts and arts**, linking economic independence with cultural heritage.
- Founded organizations like the **All India Handicrafts Board**, which influenced cultural policy and women's artisan work.
- Organized exhibitions and workshops through AIWC to showcase **women's craftsmanship**.
- Used cultural revival as a tool for **women's empowerment and national pride**.

Annie Besant

Legislative Contributions:

- Though not an AIWC founder, her work laid important groundwork for **women's political activism**.
- Advocated for **home rule and self-government**, linking women's political rights with the broader nationalist movement.
- Championed **women's education reforms**, which indirectly supported legal changes by building women's capacity for public life.
- Influenced AIWC members with her ideas on **civil liberties and political participation**.

Cultural Contributions:

- Promoted **education in Indian languages and culture**, founding institutions like the **Central Hindu College**.
- Supported the integration of **theosophical spiritual ideals** into women's social reform.

- Encouraged a cultural renaissance that valued **India's diverse religious and cultural traditions**.
- Influenced AIWC to adopt a **holistic approach**, combining political rights with moral and cultural upliftment.

Legislative & Cultural Contributions via AIWC

Leader	Legislative Contributions	Cultural Contributions
Sarojini Naidu	Women's suffrage, political participation, representation	Oratory, poetry, education, fostering cultural pride
Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay	Labour laws, women's welfare, cooperative movements	Revival of handicrafts, arts, cultural empowerment
Annie Besant	Home rule advocacy, education reform	Education, spiritual-cultural renaissance, institutional foundation

Here are **specific examples of legislation and legal reforms influenced or supported by the All India Women's Conference (AIWC)**, often through the advocacy and leadership of women like Sarojini Naidu, Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay, and others:

Specific Legislation Influenced by AIWC

1. Child Marriage Restraint Act (Sarda Act), 1929

- **What:** Legislation to raise the minimum age of marriage for girls to 14 and boys to 18.
- **AIWC's Role:**
 - AIWC strongly advocated against child marriage.
 - Used conferences to mobilize public opinion and lobby British authorities.
 - Sarojini Naidu and other leaders campaigned extensively for this law.
- **Impact:** Marked a major legal step towards protecting young girls from early marriage and its social consequences.

2. Hindu Women's Rights Reforms (1937–1947)

- AIWC pushed for reforms in Hindu personal laws related to:
 - **Inheritance rights**
 - **Maintenance and property rights for widows and daughters**
 - **Prohibition of polygamy**
- **Examples:**
 - The **Hindu Widow's Remarriage Act** and campaigns influencing gradual changes in inheritance laws.
- **AIWC's Role:**
 - Organized study groups and submitted recommendations to government committees.
 - Worked closely with reformist politicians and legal experts.

3. Maternity Benefit Act, 1939

- **What:** Provided maternity leave and benefits for working women.

- **AIWC's Role:**
 - Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay and others pressed for workplace protections for women.
 - AIWC used its platform to advocate for legal protections in employment.
- **Impact:** Early legal recognition of women's reproductive health rights in the workforce.

4. Universal Adult Franchise Advocacy

- AIWC was a leading voice demanding **universal adult suffrage**, including women.
- While full universal franchise came post-independence (1947), AIWC's persistent lobbying influenced:
 - The **Government of India Act 1935**, which extended limited voting rights to women in provinces.
 - Post-independence constitutional guarantees of **equal voting rights** for men and women.
- **Key Leaders:** Sarojini Naidu was especially vocal in pushing for women's political participation.

5. Prohibition of Devadasi System

- AIWC advocated for ending the **Devadasi practice** (ritual dedication of girls to temples).
- Efforts contributed to state-level legislations like the **Madras Devadasi Abolition Act (1947)**.
- **Impact:** Helped address social exploitation and improve women's rights.

Additional AIWC Legal Advocacy Areas

- **Equal pay for equal work** (though not legislated immediately, AIWC initiated debates that continue).
- **Education rights for girls**, influencing policies that made education more accessible.
- **Legal aid and counselling services** for women, paving the way for formal women's rights clinics.
- **Marriage laws reform**, including raising the age of consent and banning child betrothal.

Legislation/Issue	AIWC's Role	Key Leaders Involved	Year
Child Marriage Restraint Act	Advocacy & public mobilization	Sarojini Naidu, Margaret Cousins	1929
Hindu Women's Rights Reforms	Recommendations & lobbying	Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay	1930s–40s
Maternity Benefit Act	Campaigning for worker protections	Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay	1939
Universal Adult Franchise	Persistent demand & lobbying	Sarojini Naidu	1935 (partial) / post-1947 (full)
Prohibition of Devadasi System	Advocacy & awareness campaigns	AIWC members	1940s

Here's an overview of the **major conferences of the All India Women's Conference (AIWC)**, highlighting their significance, key themes, and notable outcomes. These conferences were crucial in shaping the direction of women's rights and social reform in India.

Major Conferences of the All India Women's Conference (AIWC)

1. First Conference — Pune, 1927

- **Significance:** Founding conference of AIWC.
- **Key Themes:**
 - Women's education
 - Social reforms like child marriage and widow remarriage
 - Legal rights and women's suffrage
- **Notable Participants:** Margaret Cousins, Dorothy Jinarajadasa, Sarojini Naidu (guest)
- **Outcomes:** Formation of AIWC as a platform for uniting women reformers across India.

2. Second Conference — Lucknow, 1928

- **Themes:**
 - Expansion of women's education
 - Emphasis on rural women's upliftment
 - Health and hygiene awareness
- **Outcomes:** Initiation of literacy programs and health campaigns targeting women in villages.

3. Third Conference — Delhi, 1929

- **Themes:**
 - Legal reforms against child marriage
 - Women's political rights and suffrage
- **Outcomes:** Strong support for the Child Marriage Restraint Act (Sarda Act, 1929).

4. Fourth Conference — Varanasi, 1930

- **Themes:**
 - Women's participation in the freedom movement
 - Economic independence and vocational training
- **Outcomes:** Encouraged AIWC members to support the nationalist movement and promote self-reliance through crafts and education.

5. Seventh Conference — Bombay (Mumbai), 1934

- **Themes:**
 - Social welfare legislation
 - Education reform
 - Women's health and maternity benefits

- **Outcomes:** Advocacy that contributed to the Maternity Benefit Act (1939) and other worker protections.

6. Tenth Conference — Madras (Chennai), 1937

- **Themes:**
 - Reform of Hindu personal laws
 - Women's legal rights and property inheritance
- **Outcomes:** Submission of detailed recommendations to government committees on Hindu law reform.

7. Thirteenth Conference — Calcutta (Kolkata), 1940

- **Themes:**
 - Women's role in wartime efforts
 - Social and political rights during emergency times
- **Outcomes:** Mobilized women's participation in social welfare and relief activities during World War II.

8. Post-Independence Conferences (1947 onwards)

- **Themes:**
 - Women's role in newly independent India
 - Constitution drafting and women's rights guarantees
 - Economic empowerment and education access
- **Outcomes:** Influenced inclusion of gender equality clauses in the Indian Constitution and expanded focus on women's development.

General Notes on AIWC Conferences:

- **Annual gatherings:** AIWC generally held annual conferences rotating across major Indian cities.
- **Inclusive representation:** Brought together women from various regions, religions, castes, and social classes.
- **Focus areas:** Education, legal reforms, health, political rights, economic empowerment, and cultural identity.
- **Notable leaders:** Sarojini Naidu, Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay, Margaret Cousins, Muthulakshmi Reddy, and others frequently took active roles.
- **Outputs:** Resolutions, reports, advocacy strategies, and social programs that shaped the Indian women's movement.