

## Describe - the status of Women in Islam

Women were treated in an inhumane manner before Prophethood. Makkah's people felt embarrassment if a girl was born in their homes.

"And when one of them is given news of a female infant, his face darkens, and he chokes with grief. He hides from the people because of the bad news given to him. Shall he keep it in humiliation, or bury it in the dust?" (An-Nahl - 58, 59)

### Status in Islam

A Basic fundamental rights:-

i) Birth and adolescent rights:-

Right to live

Quran prohibits the custom to bury alive the new born girls. Allah says in Quran

وَالَّذِينَ يُمِيتُونَ بَنَاتَهُنَّ الْأُولَىٰ وَالَّذِينَ يُمِيتُونَ بَنَاتَهُنَّ الْأُولَىٰ وَالَّذِينَ يُمِيتُونَ بَنَاتَهُنَّ الْأُولَىٰ

"And when the female (infant) buried alive - is questioned, for what crime she was killed."

Islam gives the right of living to all human beings

## ii) Education rights

Islam gives the right of the education free of any gender inequality.

Prophet said

"Seeking knowledge is mandatory for every muslim".

Hazrat Ayesha<sup>ra</sup> / Hazrat Ume Salma (RA) were famous in teachings of Islam.

## iii) Personhood of Women.

The Holy Quran emphasizes that God in his perfect wisdom has created all species in pairs, and so men and women have been created of the same species, as is said

لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنسَانَ مِنْ نَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ فَرَأَيْنَاهُ مِنْ نَسَبٍ وَنَسَبٍ

"He created you from a single being; - her of the same kind made its male" (Az-Zumar 39:6)

## B As a mother

i) Paradise in the - foot of the mother:

Muslims all life struggle to please Allah and strive for the jinnat.

and the importance of women as a mother can be stated in the hadiths -

"Heaven is in the footsteps of mother."

once a man came to the Prophet Muhammad and asked "Who is most deserving of my kindness?"

The Prophet said, "Your mother, then your mother, then your mother, then your father, then your nearest, then nearest."

## C As a Wife:

i) defines the man's personality  
Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said, "The best of you is the best to his family and I am the best among you to my family."

The most perfect believers are the best in conduct and best of you are those who are best to their wives."

(Ibn Hanbal)

## ii) Spouse Selection:

Islam gives the right to women to select the spouse

## iii) Widows remarry rights:

According to Islamic law, women cannot be forced to marry anyone without her consent.

"Holy Prophet said,  
" No woman should be married without consulting her, and no virgin be married without her consent, and her consent is her silence"  
(Bukhari and Muslim).

Even after the marriage ceremony if she declared that she did not consent to it, the marriage is dissolved.

iv) Hajr Mahr, Marriage gift  
It is a gift symbolizing love and affection of Islam towards women.

v) Maintenance and Protection (Qinname)

Islam gives protection to the women. The Quran gives us an example

" If they (husband wife) desire to bear the child by mutual consent and (after) consultation, there is no blame on them."

(A.I. Baqarah 2:232)

## D As a daughter.

Key - to Tannah:

Islam emphasized on kind and just treatment - to the daughter. Criticizing the attitudes of such parents who reject their female children, the Quran states:

"When news is brought to one of them, of (the birth of) a female (child), his face darkens and he is filled with inward grief! With shame does he hide himself from his people because of the bad news he has had; shall he retain her on (sufferance) and contempt, or bury her in the dust? Ah! What an evil (choice) they decide on!"

al-Nahl 16:58-59

Prophet says:

"Whoever supports two daughter till they mature, he and I will come in the day of judgement as his (and he pointed with his two fingers held together)!"

### E) Economic Aspects

- i) Independent Ownership
- ii) Employment
- iii) Inheritance
- iv) Equality

→ Hazrat Khadija (R.A) a strong woman, A famous business personality.

Given the half of the dowry  
Equality in basic rights,

### F) Political Aspect:

- i) Freedom of Speech
- ii) Vote

Hazrat Umar (R.A) Incident -

Vote right.