

Gender Parity in Islam

Islam is the name of justice and parity which comprises socio-economic and political sphere. Similarly, Islam has given women with the right to be an individual. This means that Islam has provided equal status of women as men. According to Khurshid Ahmed in his book "Islam: Its meaning and message" Quran has provided clear direction that women are equated with men in the sight of God in terms of rights, duties, and overall status. Even though, women also perform religious duties like prayer, fasting and pilgrimage. In fact, Islam has facilitated to women by taking into account physiological and psychological changes attached to their natural functions and individuality. Not only this, but also Islam is the only religion which accepts the rights of women and gives equal status to women as men. Moreover, Islam has provided equal rights to daughters and sons. Islam also emphasizes that all rights should be equally distributed among sons and daughters. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) had four daughters and was of opinion that daughters were blessing of Allah. As Humaidullah mentioned in his book "Introduction to Islam", it is the responsibility of parents to give equal rights to daughters, educate them, train them and prepare them for future life. Thus, Islam is the universal deen which ensures equal status of women as men.