

Topic:-

Women Universities as agents of change

Outline :-

I Introduction

Education is a significant right for all human beings. Men and women, both are encouraged to acquire knowledge through various institutes. In Pakistan, woman education has also been promoted on large scale.

Thesis Statement:-

Women universities ensure female education by providing them an insight to enlighten their souls and minds. These individual reforms leads to a societal development which ultimately leads to country's prosperity.

II Necessity of woman education according to Quran and Sunnah

Islam teaches us the necessity of education regardless of the gender.

As Quran's first revelation was "Iqra" while Muhammad (SAW) declared an mandatory for every Muslim.

III Impacts of women universities to bring change in Pakistan

- i) Enhances economy of the country by increasing women participation in workforce.
- ii) Enriches women ability and skill that ensure their financial independence.
- iii) Portrays positive image of the country in front of the world.
- iv) Removes illiteracy and ignorance concerning health and mental issues.
- v) Abolishes gender based violence by providing awareness on legal rights.
- vi) Helps in child upbringing considering multiple and diverse domains.
- vii) Rejects stance on early and cousin marriages by enlightening motherhood.
- viii) Contributes in provoking climate resilient policy making.
- ix) Encourages underprivileged women to participate in community development.

IV Way Forward to promote women institutes

- i) Formulating policies and their

comprehensive implementation.

- (ii) Raising awareness in rural and tribal areas through religious scholars.
- (iii) Expanding the educational institutes to make them accessible.
- (iv) Initiating and encouraging segregated education to address traditional
- v) mindset.
Creating and promoting employment opportunities after getting education.

V Conclusion

Education is a fundamental aspect that helps in transforming one's life and approach in perceiving different situations. It is a challenge but it can be achievable through comprehensive policies that ensure country's prosperity and progress.

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world"

(Nelson Mandela)

The thought provoking words of Nelson Mandela shape the significance of acquiring knowledge. The fundamental aspects of life that has a potential to bring change in the world. Pakistan has also felt the dire need of it and put forward certain steps to promote education regardless of the gender. For the last two decades, women education and institutes has been increased and promoted on large scale. For instance, it was due to emerging woman awareness that Musharraf had increased the women participation in National and Provincial assemblies and women started to actively take part in law-making debates and meeting. Yet, there are still many challenges that need to be address, as it is important to enlighten the female persona for the development of country.

Necessity of women education is also significant from Quran and Sunnah. The first revelation of Quran was Iqra to read and Muhammad (SAW) has also mentioned the education as a mandatory right of every Muslim. It is evident in Hazrat Aisha (R.A)'s deterrence, who was famous for her knowledge and debates with other companions. Not only this, Muhammad (SAW) had also constructed a separate entrance, named Bab an-Nisa to encourage women participation. These aspects shows the inclusiveness and comprehensiveness of Islam by rejecting all rigorous approaches and adding innovation. Thus, Quran and Sunnah provide a complete conduct of detail that transforms the society.

There are many impacts that bring change and first and foremost impact is that it enhances the economy of the country by increasing woman participation in workforce. More than half of country's population consist of female and if these number

engaged in doing domestic chores then the whole burden will have to bear by the males which would be difficult to manage. As the inflation is increasing and the economy is declining so to compensate this gap a woman have to be educated and empowered. For instance, China shows a visible picture of woman participation and contribution in workforce which stabilizes the country's economy from past few decades. So all male counterparts and female members should motivate a woman to play their respective roles in country's economy.

Furthermore, woman universities enriches their abilities and skill development that ensure their financial independence. Universities and educational institutes are not only confined to get degree and become graduate but also refine the skills of an individual. Many women who are not allowed to acquire education, are then encouraged to learn any vocational or technical

training that would ensure their future sustenance. Like Home Economic Schools and colleges are the landmark initiative from the government. Not only this, every year vocational and training programmes inspired many females to get their desired training and diplomas. For this purpose, a woman should also play its role in making her own career that would ultimately prosper our country.

Additionally, it will portray a positive image of a country on many international forum. Because in technology and innovation integrated twenty first century this fact has been disclosed that woman plays a pivotal role in shaping country's policy and Pakistan was among first in Islamic and non-Islamic world to elect a woman as her its state head i.e. Benazir Bhutto. Hazrat Khadija (R.A) first female business owner in the whole world. Also Saima Saleem, first visually impaired CSP who was appointed as a secretary of Human Rights in United Nations by Pakistan and her competence and

courage is being appreciated universally. This shows that Pakistan is already in favour of female contribution in bringing a positive change.

Learning of woman education is a key to remove ignorance and unawareness among individuals because education has an ability to enhance the vision of one's personality. It develops a decision making power by differentiating between the right and the wrong. It can be illustrated by an recent example that is evident from Al-Jazeera report that many parents were reluctant to inoculate HPV vaccine to their daughters claiming it a forcing propaganda to reduce country's population. Same is the situation that Pakistan is facing in Polio virus vaccine due to ignorance and lack of knowledge. By educating a woman is not merely enlightening an individual but results in welfare of whole generation. Thus, a comprehensive policy should be initiated to impart knowledge for all, and for everyone.

Also educational institutes plays their role in standing against gender based violence tolerating by a women in every sphere. The seminars and the awareness walks -nā held by institutes provides them an approach towards their legal rights. For instance, Sherry Rehman and Asma Jhangir, both are considered as liberal

feminist, provided legal protection to a woman within her own house by introducing Domestic Violence Act.

This act ensure the protection of life, liberty and consent of a woman as an individual. This also provoke a debate on equal wages for both man and woman when appointed in same designations. These platforms actually safeguards their rights not as a woman but as a living being.

Alongwith this, an educated woman leads to a substantial motherhood. This is known that a child takes its initial moral and social education from her mother's lap. And this early learning embraces its

its personality. For instance, a knowledgeable mother will not prefer grades and positions but promotes its healthy participation and hardwork. She will motivate the consistency and remains with her child in every failure and success throughout. She would be her first mentor and foremost critic at the same time. She is also aware of circular and extracircular balance, that need to be maintained by considering child mental and physical health. An educated woman is, no doubt, can revolutionizes the whole generation. Therefore, it is needed to get them educated for smooth community development.

Moreover, awareness has its benefits beyonds any boundary, which is illustrated in Pakistan's culture by discouraging early marriage and cousin marriages. In Pakistan, there is also a trend of Moonsoon brides, in flood and catastrophic regions of country. People from under-

under-privileged families get their young daughter married to any male, to ensure that now her burden would not be their responsibility and they themselves migrate from that region. Similarly, is the case with cousin marriages, which leads to many medical complications like thalassemia, disability etc and early marriage not only affects physically but also mental distortion. This could only be eradicated by the consciousness of the subjects of the country.

Women universities or institutes are significant to motivate the females of tribal and feudal families to get education. A single educated woman will stand for the rights of her community. For instance, this will allow women to challenge those traditional norms of their community which is significant in My Feudal world by Tehmina Durrani. She discloses many oppressions of a woman living within that community.

and challenged those stereotypes and aware the best of the public. But the situation is even more grave by illustrating Koro-Kori incident in Balochistan shows that still a woman is being exploited by such non-state actors. Thus, this should be eradicated by the authorities concerns to protect them from such subjugation.

But all these outcomes will only be possible by initiating comprehensive policy implementation that would ensure the woman participation.

The Federal and Provincial government should provide flexible schedules for women. For instance, a woman should be given an opportunity to get education through online classes and if not that possible then her accommodation by the institutions should be safe and clean that would be satisfied by her guardians as well. Also, scholarship and safe transportation should also be ensured for their convenience and ease. These steps will surely increase women's contribution in country's progress.

Also the rural and tribal areas are more vulnerable to government policies so to educate them the significance of education, religious scholars can play their role. They can convince the people of that particular area by referencing from Quran and Sunnah. By providing them a sketch of woman role in business, i.e. Hazrat Khadija (R.A), as a scholar Hazrat Aisha (R.A) and as a ruler of Delhi Sultanate - Razia Sultana to showcase them the heritage of woman's role in building the developed economy and foreign policy of a country.

Awareness can only be accessible if education is reachable for every individual. The government should spend more on education sector to its expansion and it will facilitate for all the individuals. And will also address those fears of parents who are reluctant to migrate or let their daughters to migrate for higher education. As

Pakistan is facing certain economic crisis which should be observed by government of respective community and allowed them to play their roles for the betterment of their people and the country. Expansion will ultimately leads to accessibility which is illustrated by an example that Muhammad (SAW) increased number of institutions to accommodate more women. And there were around fifty institutions in only Madina before migration to Mecca. So, Ibn-Khaldun also signified that funds of a country should be invested more on economy and education rather than strengthening defence line. So, authorities should pay heed to this matter and play their roles.

Furthermore, by introducing and initiating ~~the~~ segregated education the enrolment of girls may increase especially in conservative families. This may limit their overall exposure and experience but the main purpose will be achieved.

The separate education system should also have all those privileges and opportunities that offers in co-education system and shape these institutes in a way that people will not consider such institutes as a dilemma but rather an avenues of prosperity and liberation of the state and woman respectively.

Taken together, the impacts and limitations highlights that a meaningful progress depends on enabling women to participate fully in educational and professional spheres. This not only contributes in country's economy and improved and safeguards women's mental and physical health as an individual but also plays a pivotal role in rejecting gender based violence and implement their legal rights. This can only be possible through formulation of gender based policies to ensure feasibility in getting education. Encourages them to participate practically in country's progress after

completing education because

"When women rise,
nation rise with
them"

(Anonymous)

Hence, these words reemphasize the fact that country's prosperity and stability are at disposal of women's empowerment. So, with collective effort and contribution Pakistan can surely transform its crisis into stable and progressive state.