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QUESTION #01

Introduction

The Farewell sermon of Holy Prophet (PBUH) provided a comprehensive charter of human rights. The last sermon concluded up the teachings of Holy Prophet in the domain of human rights. These human rights covered broader spectrum, encompassing all major areas of life. These rights emphasized the importance of equality, brotherhood, and women rights in Islam. Even after almost 1500 years, the charter of Human Rights given by the Prophet (SAW) draw inspiration of people of 21st century.

The human rights emphasized by Prophet (SAW) on farewell sermon are as follow:

(a). Sanctity of life and property

The Holy Prophet (SAW) emphasized the importance of life and property on the occasion of

farewell in the following words:

"Your blood and property are as sacred, as this day, this month, and this city."

Life and property were given a sacred status.

(b) Brotherhood

Prophet (S.A.W.) was a great proponent of brotherhood among Muslims. This could ^{also} be seen from the hadith on farewell sermon:

"All believers are brothers. You all are equal. You are one brotherhood"

This hadith further instilled the feelings of brotherhood among Muslims.

(c) Protection of Wealth

Since Islam is a ^{provides} complete code of life, the guiding framework serves to reduce all kinds of evil, including economic. On the occasion of last sermon, Prophet (S.A.W.) said:

"Allah has forbidden you to take usury"

(d) Women Rights

Islam emerged as a religion when women had no rights in pre-Islamic ignorance. Islam provided women with all the fundamental rights. In farewell sermon, Prophet (SAW) again emphasized on the importance of women rights in the following words:

"O people! Fear Allah concerning women. Verily, you have taken them on the security of Allah and have made their persons lawful unto you by words of Allah. If your wives refrain from impropriety and are faithful to you, clothe and feed them suitably."

This hadith served as a reminder to be careful of the women rights.

(e) Rejected the idea of inherited privilege

On the occasion of farewell sermon, Prophet (SAW) emphasized that there is no place for any favoritism or biasness, based on inheritance. All were made equal before law with equal rights. Prophet (SAW) said:

"All bloodshed of pre-Islamic ignorance is abolished, and all claims of inherited privilege are under my feet"

Everyone was granted with an equal status.

(F). Universal Equality

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) set the example of universal equality, among all the Muslims of the world. Prophet (SAW) said:

"An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab have any superiority over an Arab. A black has no superiority over white, nor does a white have any superiority over black, except by piety and good action"

Piety and good deeds were the only standard set for a superiority of human over another. All other ideas and concepts were rejected by this hadith of Prophet (SAW).

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Holy Prophet (SAW) provided extensive and detailed human rights on the occasion of Farewell sermon. These rights still serve as a guiding framework for Muslims.

Question

(2)

Introduction

Islam provides women with all the fundamental rights required to live a good life. These rights include the right to live, right to education, right to earn, right to inheritance, right to trade, right to marry, and right to take 'khula' and remarriage. The current waves of women rights advocate for all these rights, already granted by Islam. Many of the rights that Islam provides to women are not provided by society. These waves of women's rights are the result of not providing rights that Islam provides.

The list of women rights provided by Islam and demanded in the waves of her women rights are as follows:

(1) Right to live

Even in the 21st century, women are often deprived from their basic right to live. Islam not only provide women the right to live, but also strictly prohibit the killing of daughters. Prophet (SAW) said:

"Anyone who kill his daughter knowingly or unknowingly will bear the fire of Hell, where he will reside forever."

Depriving women from their right of life is a grave sin.

(2) Right to Education

Islam provides women with the right of education. In the current world, women often face challenges in acquiring education. Patriarchal culture is often misperceived as Islamic culture. Islam advocates for the education of all Muslims, including women.

Prophet (SAW) said...

"Acquiring knowledge is obligatory upon every Muslim"

No discrimination about education has been made by Islam.

(3). Right of Inheritance

Islam granted women with rights of inheritance.

This is a prevailing problem of Islamic societies in which women are not given their share of inheritance. Allah said in Quran:

"From what is left by parents and those nearly related, there is a share for men and a share for women, whether the property be small or large, a determinate share."

One of the demands of current waves of women rights is to grant women with their inheritance share, which is often denied. However, Islam provides women with their fundamental right of inheritance.

(4). Right to earn and trade

Current societies due to cultural barriers often do not grant women with rights of earning. This is one of the common demands of current waves of women's rights. Allah said in Quran:

"For men is the share of what they earn, and for women is the share of what they earn"

One of the preferred ways through which women can earn is through trade. Allah said in Quran:

"O you who believe! Do not consume each other's wealth illicitly, but trade by mutual consent"

This trading right is also granted to all women.

(5). Right to respect and reputation

Current waves of women's rights demand respect and reputation of women. This right has been provided to women by Islam. Allah Almighty said in Quran:

"And those who malign believing men and believing women undeservedly, they bear the guilt of slander and manifest sin"

The right of respect and reputation is preserved in Islam

(6) Right of having consent in marriages

Islam grants women the right to have consent in marriages, and discourages the forced marriages. The right to having consent in marriages is one of the demands in the current waves of human rights. Forced marriages are cultural practices, which often confuse with Islamic ideology

(7) Right of taking 'Ikhla' and remarry

In contrast to the prevailing culture in Islamic societies where women are discouraged to take Ikhla or remarry, Islam provides complete right of 'Ikhla'. These cultural barriers of taking 'Ikhla' and getting remarried are among the main demands in the current waves of women rights. Allah

Almighty said in Quran:
"If a woman fears
from her husband contempt, there
is no sin upon them, if they make
terms of settlement between
them, and settlement is best"

This clearly instructs
of women having right to take
Khul'ah and Iremassy!

Conclusion

Islam provides
comprehensive and all fundamental
rights to women. In the current
Islamic society, women are often
deprived from these rights given
by Islam for which current waves
of women rights are observed. The
actual rights demanded in the
current waves are exactly
those provided by Islam.
