

Part - II

Q: 07

Describe the rights, role and status of women in Islam.

How a Muslim woman is more empowered than the western women

1. Introduction

Islam is a religion of peace and it is a complete code of life. Therefore Islam protects the rights of every living being. Women enjoy extreme prestige in Islam and they are given complete rights. Islam has given women their own identity and defined their roles as well. Muslim women is more empowered than western woman as west has exploited women in many way especially in the name of feminism.

2. Rights of Women in Islam

Islam is the guardian of rights of women. First time in Islam women are given complete rights. Islam has recognized women as complete individuals with their own identity and gives them right of inheritance.

right to have life, right of security, right to have their own will especially right to choose their spouse. Islam is a rational religion and it has granted women's right of education as Prophet Muhammad said,

"To seek knowledge is compulsory for both men and women"

2. Role of Women in Islam

Islam has also defined the role of women along with rights. In Islamic society, women play important role. In Islam women are allowed to participate in politics, wars etc. Women also served as a teachers Hazrat Ayesha used to teach male sahabas (companions of Prophet of Islam). Islam has allowed women to take part in economic affairs as Hazrat Ichaclija was a trader. Moreover, Women above all is guardian of her house and it is responsibility of a women to raise children well and protect her household in his husband's absence.

3. Status of Women in Islam

Women in Islam have given huge prestige. Many a times, it is mentioned in Holy Quran to treat the women nicely and Prophet of Islam also taught ^{Muslim} to behave nicely with women. Holy Prophet said:

"The heavier is under the foot of mother."

4. How Muslim women is more empowered than western women

4.1 Objectification of women by west

West in the guise of ^{Islam} giving rights to women and their independence has objectified women and make them a commodity, to favour their capitalism and profit making industry whereas, Islam has prohibited objectification of women and elevated the status of women by granting her status of sister, mother and daughter.

4.2 Protection of women by Pardah (veil) in Islam

Islam has protected the grace and beauty of women by pardah. Pardah is compulsory for women of Islam and men are instructed to lower their gaze however western propaganda against Islam and pardah called it a burden on women and imposition. In Holy Prophet Quran Allah says,

O you believers,
O Prophet, tell your wives and your daughters and women of believers to bring down shawl on themselves" (Al - Attaab)

4.3 Islam gives women right in inheritance

Islam is such a rational religion that it gives complete rights to women especially the right to have share in inheritance where in western countries women are not given the due share in inheritance.

Allah says in Quran,

"From what is left by parents and nearby relatives there is a share for both men and women"

4.5 Western prospective of feminism

West has snatched womenhood by in the name of feminism. Women are different from men and there is beauty in womenhood that a woman should embrace and to feel proud about, but west has converted feminism to body only by physically appearance only whereas, Islam in true sense is protector of women rights by giving her equality to men.

4.6 Sexual exploitation of women in west

Islam has protected the sexuality of women by establishing the institute of marriage and by prohibiting

adultery. The punishment of adultery in Islam is 80 lashes for unmarried and stoning to death for married people. Whereas, in west men took advantage of women and then left them instead of marrying them.

5. Conclusion

Islam has protected the rights of women where west has exploited women in many ways in the guise of giving independence to them. Islam has clearly defined the rights and role of women and elevated the status of women.

Q:03

Describe the concept of character building through education in the light of teachings of Islam. How it can transform the society. Elaborate.

1. Introduction

Education has given prime importance in Islam as education plays important role in character building of individual and ultimately transforms society towards the tolerant and progressive society. Islamic teachings propagate the need of education for all genders (men and women).

2. Characterbuilding through education in Islam

2.1 Education spreads truthfulness in society

Education plays an important role in character building of individuals in society. Islam strongly approves education as it makes man a truthful person. Prophet of Islam said,

“Truthfulness leads to righteousness,

and righteousness leads to paradise."

2.2 Education promotes justice in and honesty in society

For a just society, education is necessary, as education inculcates the fear of Allah in a person. Moreover, the characteristics like honesty develops in person by education. Prophet of Allah, Muhammad was so honest that on the eve of migration to Madina; he advised Hazrat Ali to remain in Makkah and return all the belongings of Quresh to them.

3. How character building can transform society

3.1 Education promotes sense of responsibility in people

Education has the power to transform character of people. Internally the sense of responsibility prevails in them they feel themselves responsi-

ble for their action Prophet Muhammad (c) said,

"Everyone among you is responsible for their subordinates"

3.2 Education promotes peace in society (tolerance)

Education plays important role in character-building and it interns promotes peace and tolerance in society. People are able to tolerate difference of opinion. The marginalized communities like minorities and women are protected in these societies.

Allah says in Quran,

"Argue with them nicely."

3.3 Education makes people aware of their rights

Education has the ability to transform people's life by inculcating in them the sense of their rights that they should be given by state. State has to give complete rights to women people. Islam has given

complete rights irrespect of their religion. Minorities feel safe in Islamic society i.e Jewish tribes of Medina.

3.4 Education promotes just and equitable society

Education plays important role in establishment of just and equitable society. There is no division division on the basis of religion, status, gender (Once companions of Holy Prophet) Once Prophet Muhammad was asked to forgive a women of Quresh who committed theft, the Prophet replied,

"If Fatima bint-e-Muhammad will commit the same she will be given the same punishment."

(cutting hand).

4. Conclusion:

Education has given prime importance in Islam as it plays important role in character building. The first revelation on Prophet Muhammad says, "،لُّكْمَانٌ"

"Read! , Read in the name of Allah,"
Education plays important role in character
building of a nation and helps in
promotion of just, tolerant and
progressive society.

Q:05

What is the bigger challenge, Islamophobia or the Extremism, the Muslim Ummah is facing? Discuss in the context of contemporary social order?

1. Introduction

In contemporary world, Muslim ummah is facing grave challenges of Islamophobia and extremism and Muslims throughout the world is facing the wrath, especially those who live under oppression or in western countries. The reason of this hostility towards Islam is hate towards religion Islam.

2. What is the bigger challenge for Muslim Ummah, Islamophobia or Extremism?

The biggest challenge that is faced by Muslim ummah is Islamophobia as the primary reason of hate towards Muslims is their religion. Even those who appear to be progressive or

liberal target Muslims and the teachings of Islam despite the fact the freedom of expression is allowed in world especially in west. This is true that extremist elements are present in every religion. But the hate towards Islam has gone beyond these elements and has gotten the support from government in the propagation of Islamophobia. Owing to the efforts of Pakistan March 15 is declared as International day to combat islamophobia.

3. Challenges faced by Muslim world due to Islamophobia in this contemporary world.

3.1 Branding of Muslims as orthodox and conservatives

In this contemporary world muslims are regarded as outdated people with orthodox ideas. West regard Islam as opposite to rationality whereas, Islam is the rational

religion and it focuses on learning and exploring things.

3.2 Relating Islam with terrorism

In this contemporary world, Muslims are related to terrorism especially post war on terror (WOT). Media has negatively played its role in furnishing the image of Muslims and Islam. Beard and cap are regarded as symbols of terrorists.

3.3 Corrupting the true essence of Jihad

World has added negative connotation to the word of Jihad. On the basis of Jihad, it is portrayed that Islam is a terrorist's religion. Islam believes in extremism and radicalization which is far from the true essence of Jihad which is to fight against oppression.

3.4 Practicing Muslims are regarded as radicalists and fundamentalists

Practicing Muslim is seen as a fundamentalist or radicalists and a threat to other religions whereas in fact to show fundamentalism and radicalism are personal attributes of a person and the person from any religion not only Islam can follow them.

3.5 Portrayal of Islam as barbaric religion

Islam in west is largely believed as barbaric religion with no flexibility. Many people refer towards the punishments in Islam as barbaric such as in case of adultery married people are stoned to death and cutting of hands (theft case). However, the purpose of punishments is for establishment of just society and to deter crime.

3.6 Portrayal of Hijab as oppression on women

In west hijab is seen as a tool to oppress women. Even women who wear hijab by her own choice has to face discrimination. Many countries like France has banned hijab yet western countries claim to be protector of ~~wom~~ freedom of choice and expression.

3.7 Oppression of Muslims

i.e Palestinians, kashmiries, Uyghur etc

Muslims living in non-Muslim states are facing wrath on the hands of governments. In the ongoing war of Israel against innocent Palestinians, more than 20,000 people has lost their lives and half of them are children. This is gross violation of Human rights but Israel is doing this in the name of self defense with full US support. Muslims of kashmir are facing oppres-

by fast fascist Modi government whereas Uyghurs on the hands of Chinese government.

4. Conclusion

Muslims has experienced extreme form of Islamophobia in the hands of west and in some parts of world they are not even allowed to have basic human rights just because of their religion.

Q# 02

Explain the doctrine of Akhrat (Life hereafter) in Islam. Describe its impact on the life of an individual and society.

1. Introduction

"Doctrine of Akhrat" has given much importance in Islam. It is one of the fundamental beliefs of Islam. Life hereafter or Akhrat means life of eternal world. This belief has huge impact on the life of individual as well as on the society at large.

2. Definition and meaning of Akhrat

Akhrat means "Life hereafter". The literal meaning of Akhrat is "the thing that follows". Akhrat means the life after death, from this mortal world. The concept of Akhrat is that everyone has to be held accountable for his/her deeds and on the basis of this they will be rewarded or punished.

3. Doctrine of Akhrat in Islam

Doctrine of Akhrat in Islam is that this world is a test and the record of deeds that a person does in this world will be kept. After death, starts the alam-e-barzakh and on the day of resurrection everyone rise up again and will be held accountable of his/her deeds and it will be granted heaven and hell on this basis. However, Allah can forgive a person if He wants. It is mentioned in Quran that

وَمِنْ كُلِّ أُجْرٍ لِلّٰهِ

The day of resurrection · What is striking (how) is?

4. Impact of Akhrat on life of Individual

4.1 Promote fear of Allah in person

Akhrat has huge impact on the lives of individuals as it inculcates

the fear of Allah in man. Fear of Allah is called as Taqwa. Taqwa being a person closer to Allah and abide by his teachings.

make him
Allah says in Quran-

"O you who believed, fear Allah and be with those who are true."

4.2 Inculcate humbleness in person

Concept of Akhlaq being's humbleness in the lives of the person.

The person knows his/her ultimate end therefore they he behaves with other people in a good manner. Holy Prophet said

"The best among you is the one whose manners are the best."

In this way, peace prevails in society.

5. Impact of Akhrat on Society

5.1 Establishment of just and equitable society

Owing to the concept of Akhrat the equitable and just society can be established as people believe that they have to be answerable to Allah. Justice and equality has given prime importance in Islam. Allah says in Quran

"Do justice. That is nearest to Taqwa and fear Allah surely, Allah is well-aware of what you do"
(Al-Maidah)

5.2 Fulfilment of rights and duties

Every individuals of society perform their duties and that individual's rights towards society is protected due to the

belief in day of resurrection. As government and people both knows that they are responsible for what they do and they will be answerable to Allah about their affairs. Islam has put huge emphasis on Hugobb-ul-Ibad.

6. Conclusion

Akhraf has huge impact on the individual and the societal health of any country. It transforms the lives of people on the positive connotation and intern intern peaceful, just and progressive society is established.