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TEST 03

TOPIC: STATUS OF WOMEN IN ISLAM.

• Outline: ~~STATUS OF WOMEN IN ISLAM.~~

I - Introduction.

II - Status of women Before Islam.

- burden

- no education

- forced / early marriages.

III - Equality in Islam.

IV - Rights to Education.

V - Right to Divorce

VI - Right to choose spouse

VII - Property owner

VIII - Right of Jobs.

IX - Protection from Oppression.

X - Right to worship.

XI - Political Participation.

XII - Misconception of Teachings of Islam

XIII - Conclusion.

ESSAY

Islam is the religion which teaches us the way of living and it is helpful in every field of life. Only religion in the world which is based on equality is islam. It teaches us that women have equal rights as of men. According to Islam, all mankind are equal regardless of the gender.

Before Islam, women were considered as the burden. Especially in Arabia^{countries}, there was tradition to buried newborn girls alive. And women were considered as the property of men, they were victim of the violence and there was no education for female. There was the concept of early and forced marriages. The birth of a daughter was considered as a shame and burden due to fear of poverty and honor issues. Pre-islam was the time of tribalism ~~so~~ so due to the weakness in tribal warfare birth of daughter was burden at that time.

Islam is the religion of Equality. Arrival of islam brought a positive change to the world. It transformed systems and beliefs across the world and bring equality to the world. Islam gave rights to the women, teach justice to even non-muslims, protection to the property^{and} life, and equality between rich and poor. All mankind are equal in islam regardless of race, colour, religion, caste and tribe. There is the concept of brotherhood in Islam. Every muslim is brother to every other muslim. The last

khutba of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is ^{also} about the ~~equality~~ equality. As it teaches us that Arab has no superiority over non-arab, nor does a non-arab over arab. same for black and white regardless of their ^{good} actions. ~~good~~

Education is considered very important in Islam. Islam teaches to educate man ~~as~~ well as woman. First ^{ayat} ~~most~~ of Quran ^{starts with} word 'Iqra' which means "To Read". Prophet Muhammad (PBUS) said:

"Seeking knowledge is obligatory to every muslim (Male and Female)".

In Islam, education is equally important for both men and women. Women in Islam have the rights to teach and learn.

Women have the right of khula in Islam. They are allowed to seek divorce by approaching the court or Qazi. Divorce is not a good act in Islam but it is allowed in Islam. If a husband is unjust and abusive women are allowed to approach the court for Divorce same as men. So this shows the equality of Islam. There is example of Hazrat zainab who got a khula from Hazrat ^{zaid bin} Hakeem ~~at~~ the time of ~~the~~ Prophet Muhammad (PBUS). After that with the command of Allah she marry the Prophet Muhammad. So, there is permission of Divorce and Remarry someone in Islam.

Similarly, the right to choose a spouse is also given by the Islam to muslim women. ~~an example~~

Female

Muslims are allowed to marry someone they like.

There is no concept of forced marriage in Islam. Women are given all the rights ~~but~~ but due to honor killing mindset of most of uneducated ~~women~~ men, they thought the right to choose a spouse is not given by Islam. Forced marriage is invalid in Islam and women have the right to reject or accept the proposal.

At the time of Pre-Islam there is no concept of women's property. But Islam gave all the rights to women. So there is right of women ownership of property. Father's property or Husband property is properly divided and given to all family members according to teaching of Quran. There is share of property for women of what there father and close relative leave. Women have the proper right to own and manage their property and there is no concept of women to share the property with husband, father etc.

Hazrat Khadija (RA) ~~is~~ traded before and after the Islam. So there are the rights for women to work. Islam grant ^{permission for} women to work but to remain in the boundaries teaches by Islam and to remain in modesty. Women can work in any field medical, education etc but the income and work should be halal and she is allowed to freely spend the money wherever she can. There are some

principles or policies among them

conditions to work in Islam that women should not compromise her modesty and should not neglect her responsibilities and religious duties.

Before the arrival of Islam, women are considered the burden and are the victims of violence. But after Islam they are no more burden. Islam gave them these proper rights and teaches us that they are the essential part of society and men are. So they must be treated with equality and respect.

Muslim women were once no rights to worship but Islam granted them the right to worship. They are allowed to worship just as men. There is the misconception in Pakistan that ~~to~~ muslim women were not allowed to go to mosque. ~~but~~ Actually they are allowed to go to mosque and worship at home where they want and perform their religious duties just like the men in the society.

Muslim women, just like muslim men have the rights to participate in politics. Their participation in political affairs is not prohibited in Islam. In Pakistan, some men thought they are the superior gender so they don't want women to rule them. Otherwise there is no teaching of Islam where there is restriction of women to participate in politics.

At the time of partition of Pakistan, even Fatima Jinnah participated in politics alongside

his brother Quraideeqam. Hence, Muslim women have the rights to fully participate in politics.

There is misconception about teachings of Islam that women are not allowed to get education, do jobs or participate in politics. ~~Islam is a peaceful religion~~ Women are not the burden to the society and they have all their rights to live a life with freedom. This is only the misconception that Islam is a strict religion, in reality it is not.

Islam is a religion which allow women to live a life according to their will. They are allowed to perform their duties and grant them more proper right but teaches them to remain in certain islamic boundaries. In Islam, women are part of the society as a man and ~~they~~ every individual are allowed to live their lives according to their will.