

QNO:3

Explain the concept of Human Rights in Islamic thought in specialisation of "Status of women in Islam".

1 INTRODUCTION

In Islam Rights are divided into Haqq Allah and Haqq ul Ibad. In Islam all humans are considered as dignified creature and their rights are emphasised in Islam. In Islam the special emphasis is placed on the rights of women. Women before Islam were living a miserable life. But Islam elevated the status of women by acknowledging her complete personhood. It provides women a right to receive education, right to work, her conjugal rights are also emphasised. This answer will explore the concept of ^{Human} women Rights in Islam by focusing on the status of women.

2 Concept of Human Rights in Islam:

The whole concept of Islam covers two means, one is the Right of God and other is the Right of his creation. In Islam Human beings are considered as dignified creation of Allah and

Allah has placed great emphasis on ^{their} Human Rights. Humans are provided Rights like right of freedom, justice, equality and fair treatment. Moreover, Islam has interlinked rights with the duties, in short one man's rights is another man's duty.

Shariah not only provides Muslims with rights but equally focuses on the rights of Non-Muslims. In Islam, Human rights are given so much importance that it is often stated that rights of Allah, if compromised can be forgiven, if asked forgiveness but the rights of Humans can not be forgiven if compromised.

3 Human Rights in Islam by focusing on the status of women in Islam.

In this discourse we will explain the concept of human Rights in Islam by focusing on the status of women in Islam.

(i) Condition of women in Pre-Islamic Civilization:
Before discussing the status of

women in Islam, it is important to understand that women before Islam were denied all their basic rights and their life was similar to that of ~~the~~ animals.

a) Hinduism In Hinduism customs like sati was performed where women used to burn themselves on the death of ~~the~~ ^{their} husbands. There is a famous story in Hinduism about aghni Pariskhsha performed by Sita when she was abducted by Ravan to prove her purity.

b) Christianity:- In Christianity ^{Eve} women are ~~blamed~~ ^{blamed} for committing original sin. Women in Christianity are considered as a source of temptation which insists men to commit sins.

c) Western civilization:-

In west women were considered as minors and, who can not take decisions of her life.

She was first subjected to the will of her father or her brother and after she gets married she was subjected to the will of her husband. She

had no say in marriage. A wife was like a purchased property of her husband. She cannot vote, adopt or hold public education offices. She was denied the economic freedom.

(d) Arabian Peninsula before Islam.

The women in Arabian Peninsula before the advent of Islam were living a miserable life. Female infanticide was common. Women were like inherited property which was passed to the son after the death of the husband. They used to sell sex for living and they were known as ladies of flag.

(B) Status of women in Islam

(a) acknowledgement complete personhood of women.

Islam acknowledges complete personhood of women. They are provided with all the rights, be it economic, social, political or religious.

b) Equal status to the ^{women} men:-

Women are considered no less Human than men. As it is stated in Surah Nisa that "O mankind, keep your duty to your Lord who created you from a single soul and from it creates its male and from them has spread a multitude of men and women"

c) Right to be treated fairly:-

Hazrat Muhammad PBUH stated that sons should not get superiority over daughters.

"Who soever has a daughter and does not bury her alive, does not insult her and does not favor his sons over her God will enter him in Paradise.
(Ibn Hanbal)

d) Right to life:- And when the female (infant) is buried alive, it will be questioned for what crime she was killed. This is stated by Hazrat Muhammad PBUH.

c) Right to inheritance Unlike other religions, Islam has stressed on the Right of women inheritance. As it is stated by Allah in Surah Nisa verse number 7, that "for men is a share of what the parents and close relatives leave, and for women is share of what the parents and close relatives leave, be it little or much - an obligatory share"

d) Right to be saved from forced marriage.

There is an incident of a girl who came to Hazrat Muhammad PBUH and narrated her story that she was married against her will. Upon hearing this Hazrat Muhammad PBUH said to the women, that you have two choices, either you accept this marriage or this marriage will be nullified.

e) Right to work - Women in Islam are given their right to earn and work. Hazrat Umm Atiyah used to perform ~~circumcision~~ ^{circumcision} for females and used to wash and enshroud the deceased females of Medina. Asma Bint Abi Bakr

used to feed the camels and horses and used to go to fetch water for her husband's land. During the time of Hazrat Umar (RA) he appointed a woman on the post of market inspector.

(b) Right to leader

women in Islam are provided right to lead. As Hazrat Ayesha (RA) led an army of 15000 against Hazrat Ali (RA) along with two men.

(c) Right as a wife:-

Islam has emphasised on the rights of wife. In Neptical contract there is a column where all the rights of wife are mentioned like right to live in a separate house, right to motherhood etc. Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) stated that the best of you are those who are best to their wives (Ibn Hanbal).

(d) Right to education:-

Islam has incumbent on both men and women to receive education. No restriction is place on women education. Hazrat Ayesha (RA) was the greatest scholar of her time. This shows that Islam acknowledges the right to receive education for women.

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Conclusion:-

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To sum up the whole idea of Islam focus on two aspects, one is the right of God and the other is the right of his creature. Human Rights in Islam are given special place.

Describing explaining the concept of Human Right in Islam by focusing on the status of women in Islam shows that Islam has put special emphasis on the rights of women and has elevated their status by acknowledging complete personhood. Moreover, they are provided with the rights to own, to work, to learn and the right to have a fair and equal treatment.

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QNO:1

Describe the importance of Deen in human life. Differentiate b/w Deen and Religion.

INTRODUCTION:-

"Islam is a Deen and not just a Religion" - This makes our minds wonder that what is the difference between Deen and religion. In this discourse we will discuss the difference between Deen and religion and the importance of Deen in human life. The importance of Deen is that it provides complete guidance in all the spheres of Human life, i.e. social, Religious, Political, legal and judicial spheres.

Importance of Deen in Human Life

Deen is important as it provides complete guidance in the following spheres of life.

Complete Guidance in Religious sphere of Human life

Deen provides Human being with

complete guidance in matters related to religion. It guides us about the relation between Allah and mankind. It teaches us religious values. In short, Deen provide guidance about the vertical relation between the creator and the creation.

Guidance in social sphere of life:-

Deen also guide ^{or} between horizontal relations between human beings. It teaches us about all the spheres of social life. for example.

as family life. It teaches about the way a person must treat or interact with his family as ~~AB~~ Hazrat Ayesha RA reported that PBUH said that the best of you among you are those who is best to his family. On an other occasion Hazrat Muhammad PBUH stated that do not ever sever your relation with any member of your family even if they sever their relation with you.

b) Men & Women:-

It teaches us about how a man and woman should behave like in a society. PBUH curse the man who imitates woman and curse the woman who imitates the man. Further mooses it teaches us that although men and women are different but they are equal to one another in term of spiritual and moral means.

c) Relation between Parent and child:-

It teaches us about the right and duties of parents and child over each other. PBUH stated that Hazrat Ayesha (RA) ^{said} reported that find a good mother for you seed and marry a good woman. This shows it is a responsibility on parents to choose a good parent for his children even before they are born. On the other hand Deen teaches human to treat your parents with kindness.

d) Marriage:- Deen provides details about conjugal rights. It equally

stresses the rights and duties of wife and husband towards each other.

(ii) With General community

Deen also guides how individuals should treat each other in a society.

It stresses on the principles of equality, justice and mutual respect towards one another. Allah says in Quran that "enjoin in what is good, but do not join in what is evil".

(iii) Guidance in Economic sphere

It teaches about all the details of economic sphere:

It teaches us about the basic principles of economic sphere.

It teaches us a person should avoid economic exploitation. Moreover, it also guides us that the economic transactions should be transparent and clear ^{and free from} ~~from~~ all sorts of ambiguity. Moreover, it teaches us the proper ways of production, consumption, distribution.

(iv) Political sphere of life

Deen also provide guidance

In the political sphere of Human Right It tell us that how an Ustake should be like. In addition to this, it also tells about the qualities and responsibilities of the leader. It provides equal rights to all the citizens in an Islamic political system.

(v) legal and judicial sphere

Deen also provide guidance in the judicial and legal spheres of human life. It provide us with the sources to make law form.

These sources are primary, secondary and tertiary. Moreover it also provide us details about the process of judicial system from the gender and qualities of a Qadi, to the number of witnesses. It also provide us with the complete guidelines in prescribing punishment related to specific different kinds of crime.

(vi) Guidance in the international sphere

It also guides humans about how their relationship should be with international community. It stresses on peace. It teaches us that muslims

can enter in peace with non muslims.
It also teaches us that these treaties must be respected. Moreover, it also teaches the importance of mediation.

3 Difference between Deen and Religion

There is a fundamental difference between Deen and Religion. The scope of ~~Deen~~ both varies. Religion guides just related to the vertical relation between the creator and the creation. It is a set of religious beliefs, norms and rituals. It does not guide its followers regarding the other sphere of life. On the other hand, Deen provide complete religion guidance and covers all the spheres of human life. be it economic, political, legal, judicial or religious. Moreover, as many religion can coexist in a same society, but Deen cannot exist with another Deen in the same society as there cannot be more than one way of life in a society.

A) Conclusions:-

To sum up, Deen is an important in Human life as it provide us

complete guidance in all the spheres of life like economic, legal, social, judicial and Religious. Moreover, there is difference between Deen and Religion as Religion is just confined to the vertical spheres relationship between man and his creator whereas Deen is not just confined to the Religious sphere. Its scope is far more wider as it provides guidance and covers all the other aspects of Human life.