

## -(QUESTION-5)-

### A) INTRODUCTION:-

Islam is a religion of peace and equality. It gave the concept of human rights in an era of ignorance where the powerful treated the poor like slaves, and female infanticide was common. Islam called for the right of life, equality, property, privacy, and dignity among others. The last sermon of Holy Prophet (SAW) is considered as the first comprehensive document on human rights in the history of the world. Moreover, Islam has exalted the status of woman as a mother, wife, daughter and as a woman in general. Islam had provided rights to women 1400 years ago, what the feminist movements of the west are demanding today. However, the western view on the status of women differs from that



of Islam, due to different ideologies.

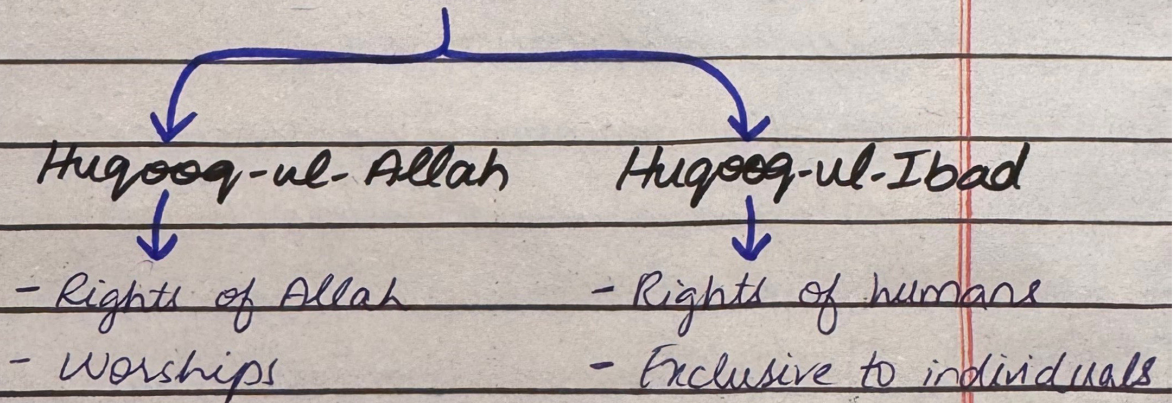
## B) EQUAL HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL IN ISLAM:-

### → "RIGHT" MEANING:-

The word "right" is translated in Arabic as "haqq" whose terminological meaning is:

"The legal right of a person given by the Sharia."

### → TYPES OF RIGHTS/HUQOOQ:-



### → MAN IS THE SUPERIOR CREATION OF ALLAH:-

Humans have been called as "Ashraful Makhloqat" - the superior creation. God has bestowed them with intellect



and all other creations are made for the service of humans.

"We have honoured the Children of Adam and brought them to the land and the sea, and granted them good things, and favoured them over all other creations."

~ AL-QURAN

## → HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISLAM:-

### 1) EQUALITY OF ALL:-

Quran clearly says that no discrimination should be made between men, except for piety.

"O mankind! We have created you of a male & female, and made you tribes and families so that you may know each other. Surely the best among you to Allah is the most righteous."





## 2) RIGHT TO LIFE AND PROPERTY:-

Islam has given every person the right to life. It has called the killing of one person as the killing of entire humanity.

"If you kill one person,  
it is as if you have killed  
the entire humanity."

~ AAL-QURAN

Islam also commands  
to return the trusts of people  
and to not consume each other's  
property unjustly.

## 3) RIGHT TO BASIC NEEDS:-

The Quran commands  
to be considerate and fulfill  
the basic necessities of people.

"And give the relative  
his right, and to the poor,  
and the wayfarer, and  
do not spend wastefully."

~ AL-QURAN



#### 4) RIGHT TO INHERITANCE:-

Verse 11-12 of Surah Nissa in the Quran has vividly illustrated the rights of all the deserving people in the inheritance.

#### 5) RIGHT TO PRIVACY:-

Islam forbids to invade the privacy of others.

"Donot spy on one another and donot backbite."

~ AL-QURAN

#### 6) OTHER RIGHTS:-

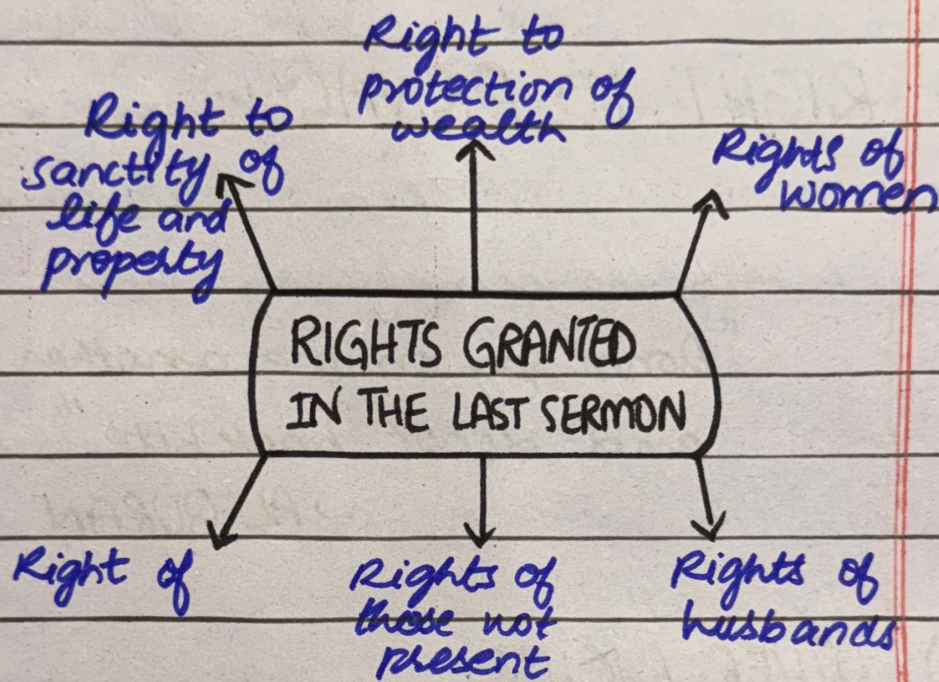
Other rights in Islam includes:-

- Protection of chastity
- Right to identity/name of a newborn child.
- Right to education.
- Right to dignity etc.

→ HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE LAST SERMON OF PROPHET (SAW):-



The last sermon delivered on 9<sup>th</sup> Zul-Hijjah, 10 A.H provides a comprehensive document of human rights, <sup>particularly</sup> emphasizing on women's rights.



### c) STATUS OF WOMEN IN ISLAM:

In order to make a comparison with the western notion of status of women, it is important to first understand the status of women in Islam.

#### 1) EQUALITY OF BOTH GENDERS IN THE EYES OF ALLAH :-



Allah has created all mankind, both men and women and sent them to this world for testing. On the day of Resurrection, there will be no priority of one over another on the basis of gender, but the deeds of a person will determine their fate.

"Allah will not waste the work of any worker among you, whether male or female. You are from one another."

~ AL-QURAN

## 2) IMMENSE RESPECT GIVEN TO MOTHER:-

Islam teaches to respect the mother the most in the world as she is the one who gave us birth, brought us up and gave sacrifices for us



According to a narration, a person asked the Holy Prophet: "Who is the most entitled to my best companionship?" Prophet replied: "Your mother". Upon asking twice, the answer was the same. On the fourth time, the Prophet replied: "Your father".

### 3) STATUS AS A WIFE:-

Holy Prophet (SAW) had nine wives at a time and treated them all with love and care. He gave special time to them from asar to maghrib and even helped them in house chores.

"The best among you is the one who is the best to ~~their~~ his wives. And I am the best to my wives."

~ HADITH



#### 4) LOVE TO A DAUGHTER :-

Islam teaches to be kind and loving to daughters. The Holy Prophet (SAW) loved his daughter Hazrat Fatima (RA) dearly. He used to stand for her when she came, kissed her forehead and sat her in his seat/place.

"Whoever brings up two daughters properly until they are adult. He and I will be together on the day of judgement like this (he held his two fingers together)."

~ HADITH

#### D) DIFFERENCE OF ISLAMIC STATUS OF WOMEN FROM THE WESTERN WORLD :-

##### 1) DIFFERENCE IN IDEOLOGY :-

The West claims to be the champions of human



rights, but their ideology greatly differs from Islam. The West demands complete freedom of choice for women; however, in Islam it is denied not only to women but men as well. Because Islamic ideology is rooted in obedience to Allah and spending life according to his will, not one's individual will.

## 2) ISLAM PROVIDES A HOLISTIC APPROACH REGARDING THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN:-

Where west focuses on merely individual rights, Islam aims at the collective welfare of society. It commands to fulfill the rights and obligations to God, society and self. However, Islam has been greatly misunderstood by the west but in reality



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their approach is very selfish that destroys societies in the long run.

"Islam holds a unique position than other religions in a sense that it acknowledged the individual economic status of woman long before the west thought of gender rights."

~ M. QUTUB

~ Book : "The Misunderstood Religion"

### 3) CONTRADICTION ON THE ASPECT OF BODILY AUTONOMY:-

Human body is a trust from Allah and it should be used as Allah has commanded. This restriction is not gender specific.

### 4) ISLAM NEGATES COMPLETE EQUALITY OF BOTH GENDERS:-

Islam has placed





more responsibilities on a man and he will be accountable for his family. Hence, there is no complete equality which is not a matter of superiority, but of responsibility.

### E) CONCLUSION:-

In a nutshell, Islam is a comprehensive religion that believes in equal rights of all human beings irrespective of their colour, race or ethnicity. Allah and his Messenger has greatly emphasized on the rights of women, and Islam provides an honourable status to women in all their roles.