

Contemporary Challenges and the Role of Muslim Women in Developing Society

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Abstract

A woman has very important role in society therefore Islam says women to get education and knowledge, because these things are very significant for women. Education is necessary for social progress in society, therefore Hadrat Muhammad (pbuh) also emphasized women to get education. A woman is responsible to offer her services in the variety of domain to develop society i.e., social and economic integration, family responsibilities, political involvement, education and training, and communal issues. Therefore, Islam advises to women to get academic, moral, religious, and intellectual direction in order to fulfil their place in society's growth. They have the opportunity to engage in social and economic sectors, politics, childrearing, and family affairs. Islam and its teachings also place a great priority on women's rights, safety, and social support. No one can ignore the importance of women's role in social development. Islam tells us that the role of a woman is very important in society, because she is a mother, a sister, a wife and a daughter. Therefore, society and its system is incomplete without her. Hence Islam has a strong emphasis on granting justice and peace to women. A woman can control her safety and stand up for her rights in order to feel comfortable within the bounds of social progress. These arguments can demonstrate the significance of Islamic teachings for women's social, moral, and religious growth as well as the significance of normative roles they may play in this development of society. Furthermore, the social growth and well-being of any nation are contingent upon the independence of its women. In both the social development and economics, women have an essential role. Women have always been essential to the stability, advancement, and long-term prosperity of a nation. Nevertheless, society frequently falls short of appreciating and realising their full potential. An educated woman has a higher chance of being able to access social development in society and economic prospects. While women's economic empowerment and social stability are necessary to achieve gender equality, women's empowerment in all spheres is essential to society's overall advancement too. For a happy existence, men and women should have equal access to resources and involvement in decision-making processes. Then the development may be possible in society.

Keywords: Education, Islamic teachings, Molarity, Religious, and Academic instruction

Introduction:

The Islamic social structure is robust and long-lasting. Its guidelines are unchangeable and unwavering. Its justice permeates their entire demeanour. This system is so vast and all-encompassing, covering every aspect of existence, and all of its parts are harmoniously related to one another. A group of individuals is called a society. Islamic social and political change is done for this reason. Islam views the person's reformation as the beginning point there rather than ignoring them. As its reform is essentially the reform of society as a whole, and since it is the fundamental unit of society. Islam therefore views the reformation of the individual as having equal significance with that of the community.

Islam has established the nature of the interaction between men and women, which is the fundamental building block of human civilization. Islam also upholds the idea that every person, male or female, has a distinct position. Instead than viewing sex as a suspended element of a larger social structure, it views that it is as an integral aspect of society. Furthermore, it fosters the idea that an individual is always accountable for his own deeds. A healthy society can exist when every person fulfils his responsibility well and fulfils his responsibilities by being well aware of the changes of time.¹

Because of ignorance in the pre-Islamic age, men predominated over women in all aspects of global civilization. Women had no position until the arrival of Islam, which respected them as daughters, wives, and sisters and engaged both sexes in the development of resources. There is no other religion in the history of the world or a country that has accorded women the honour and status as Islam has. In addition to defining women's rights, Islam affirms women's equality with men and their position as whole human beings.²

The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) lived in a period when women were significant in a variety of roles. His biography also discusses the significant contributions made by women to society, including their preservation of individual rights, education, and humanitarian work. Throughout Islamic history, women have fulfilled important roles and accomplished great things. Hazrat Khadijah (RA), Hazrat Aisha (RA), and other Muslim women, for instance, were influential figures in politics, society, and the arts.

According to these references, the role of women in Islamic teachings is important and they have been made active participants in various aspects of social development and challenges.

Explanation:

The fact is that a woman in every form of mother, sister, wife and daughter is a precious gift of nature without which the entire human universe is dull and dull. Allah Ta'ala has made man his protector and shelter. A woman in herself is like a tree that bravely faces all kinds of hot and cold conditions. On the basis of this determination, courage and steadfastness, Allah placed Paradise under his feet. From Hazrat Hawa (peace be upon her) to the appearance of Islam, there are mentions of many famous women in the Qur'an, Hadith and Islamic history, including the wives of Hazrat Abraham (peace be upon him), Hazrat Sarah (peace be upon her), Hazrat Hajra (peace be upon her), Pharaoh's wife Asia, Hazrat Umm Musa, Hazrat Maryam, Umm Hazrat Khadijah Al-Kubri RA, Umm al-Momineen Hazrat Aisha Siddiqa RA, Umm Al-Momineen Hazrat Umm Salma RA, Sayyida Kainat Hazrat Fatima RA, Hazrat Samia RA and many other women whose achievements are filled with the pages of history.³

The history of Islam remains incomplete without mentioning the sacrifices and services of women. Women actively participated in the preaching and preaching of Islam along with men. The role of Muslim women in the early history of Islam is also a clear lesson for women all over the world today. Hazrat Khadijah (RA) who was the first to accept Islam, the confidant of the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) and the companion of the Prophet. Hazrat Khadija was not only the first to accept Islam, but also the first to practice it and dedicated her entire life, life and property, to the religion of Islam. Hazrat Khadijah suffered hardships and sufferings after three years of confinement in Sha'ab Abi Talib and when the confinement ended after three years, she became so sick and weak that she went to meet the real creator in the midst of this illness. Among the wives of the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, there is also a woman who has the honor of being the companion of the Companions, and the Companions also acquired the knowledge of Hadith from her. He is the blessed Hazrat Aisha. Hazrat Aisha has a unique position among the wives of the Holy Prophet. He was the most intelligent of his contemporaries and companions. She had a unique position on the basis of this intelligence and knowledge. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said that half of my religion will be protected because of Aisha. 8 thousand Companions of Rizwan Alaihim Ajameen are the disciples of Hazrat Ayesha Siddique.⁴

The life of Hazrat Fatima, Lady of Paradise, the mother of the Chiefs of Paradise and the daughter of the Chief of both worlds, is also unparalleled. Hazrat Fatimah, the beloved daughter of the Prophet (PBUH) was the owner of a great and versatile character who is a role model for women who come to the Day of Judgment as a daughter, as a mother and as a wife. While paying the right to the love of his great father, he faced the persecution of the chiefs of

Quraish with great courage, bravery, courage and steadfastness in his childhood. Hazrat Fatima was young. One day when the Holy Prophet (PBUH) was engaged in divine worship in the courtyard of the Kaaba, at the suggestion of Abu Jahl, Uqbah bin Abi Mu'it placed the neck of a slaughtered camel on the neck of the Prophet (PBUH) during prostration. She came running and removed the pain and suffering from the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him).⁵

Hazrat Safiyyah, the maternal grandmother of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) was a very brave and fearless woman. During the war, she would fearlessly bring the wounded out of the battlefield and bandage them. He displayed great bravery on the occasion of Ghazwa Khandaq, when during the war a Jew attacked a Muslim women, he gave him a strong blow which ended his work. Hazrat Umm Amara was a famous Sahabi. In the Battle of Uhud, when the infidels of Makkah spread the rumour that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) had been martyred, he defended the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) in such a critical situation and performed an unforgettable display of swordsmanship. The purpose of mentioning these pure women is that the women of today should make the life of these great personalities their ideals, build self-confidence in themselves, and actively participate in the propagation of religion and the development of the country.⁶

Role of Muslim Women in Developing Society

The fulfilment of human existence, maintaining peace, and making use of its latent potential all depend greatly on the role that women play. Sociologists' study indicates that the root of society's progress is in the enhancement of human capacities and workforce training. Women have a particularly significant role in workforce education and training. The importance of women in the education and upbringing of children cannot be understated. The advancement of society is largely attributed to the educated women in our society, while the lack of education among women is a major cause of social and economic backwardness in those places. Islam has accorded particular significance to women as its rules and teachings are consistent with human nature.⁷ Islam addressed the issue of women's status and place fourteen hundred years ago; women undoubtedly hold a significant position in the household, in society, and outside of it. Various societal segments view women as having a significant role, and they are assigned certain obligations.⁸

The position of Muslim women in today's society is not simple and multifaceted as political and social processes evolve and Islamic culture intertwines with various parts of the world.⁹ It is evident that as societies transition, Muslim women face various hurdles, though

they can also assume significant roles outside the domestic sphere, such as within employment, business, and politics.¹⁰

Necessary to note that the key barriers can manifest themselves in terms of cultural and religious limitations that may hinder women in entry to the education, employment and leadership positions in many parts of the world.¹¹ Furthermore, it is evident that prejudicial legislations and regulations prevent women from exercising their civil liberties which hampers their contributions towards the advancement of society in many countries. Such scenarios are common we see that economic imbalances also impact femininity by limiting women in terms of resource utilization and financial opportunities. Women are also denied equal participation in public life due to concerns of safety and violence against women as well as personal insecurities.¹²

Contributions and Opportunities:

Education and Empowerment: Education is itself one of the most efficacious means of empowering an individual or a group. The increase in the access to education among Muslim women means higher participation in the various opportunities they take thus spurring economic development and transformation.¹³

Economic Participation: It is however important to note that Muslim women are entering the market to work, initiating more entrepreneurship, and participating toward the growth of the economies. They are ready to contribute to sustainable growth of economy as it is impossible to imagine it without their participation.¹⁴

Political Engagement: It is soothing to see that the fair sex is coming out in large numbers on matters pertaining to politics and governance and pushing for policies on gender and social justice.¹⁵ It also means that the input and participation of females guarantee various points of view during decision-making.¹⁶

Social and Community Leadership: Muslim women are taking the lead in social and community organisations to improve society, particularly by advocating for human rights and other nationalist issues that unite people. It is evident from their interactions as leaders that they support community development and local issue management.¹⁷

Conclusion

The contribution of the Muslim woman in the preformed societies is significant and quite fluid. While struggling as citizens they already play a major role in educational systems, economy, political life and social life as a whole. Thus, it is crucial to understand the sources of the stimuli that prevent their integration and to eliminate these barriers. Educating Muslim

women, changing legal provisions to protect Muslim women, providing them with opportunities for employment and education, and ensuring their protection against violence will not only empower Muslim women but would also be helpful for the society and other Muslims.

Undoubtedly, becoming successful and the representation of the Muslim women in different societies depend on the progress of these societies to create the conducive environment for the Muslim women to assume leadership roles and contribute towards the improvement of these societies. This will in return result into better understanding the need of the people in the different societies and helping them to have better lives in the different societies which is very important in enhancing equitable and inclusive prosperous societies across the globe.

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