



Position of woman in Islam and other civilizations

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Abstract

In the past, Athenians, and Hellas who are the oldest civilized nation of the world, women were used as worthless cloths and they were buying and selling in the market and she was counted unclean, foul and member of devils, In Indian tradition, it's narrated about women; Plague, Death, poison, Fire, Snake, and hell all are better than Women, In 586 B.C a conference was held that "Woman is human but created for the serving of man". In England, an instruction issued by the "Eight Art" in which it was mentioned that women are banned from reciting and studying Holy books, likewise in the constitution of 1850 of England woman was not counted as part of the population, even women had this condition in the earth of Arab tribes before Islam. Women did not have the right taking inheritance from their relatives, women did not have right on her husband. Arabs at the age of Ignorance were disagreeable with women and they were taking women as sinisterly and due to shame for their other relatives, they were burning their daughters alive. Persons who were claiming to be the most civilized people of the past ages like Egyptians and Indian were not even agreed to give the humanitarian rights to the female section of the humans they counted women as most dangerous alive thing, having girl in ignorance time was a shame or they were killing their daughters due to the fear of poverty and they also believed that only women are responsible for giving female child. When Islam came Quran has clearly expressed its position for struggling with this ignorant culture, and said: «And when one of them is informed of [the birth of] a female, his face becomes dark, and he suppresses grief. He hides from the people because of the ill of which he has been informed. Should he keep it in humiliation or bury it in the ground? Unquestionably, evil is what they decide". Also Quran Kareem has clearly mentioned that the killing of offspring especially girls are banned and forbidden whether it's due to poverty or shame. "And do not kill your children for fear of poverty. We provide for them and for you. Indeed, their killing is ever a great sin". From the time when Quran sent down by the Allah (swt) guides its followers and all humanity to not follow and keep away from all those actions like the killing of daughters, and Quran has also forbidden Muslims from doing actions which harm the personality of women.

Keywords: civilizations, Athenians, Hellas, worthless

Introduction

Islam is the religion of justice and mercy. Islam always commands and demands from its followers to be mercy and kind upon all those who are living on the earth in order to become under the mercy of Allah.

In the past, at the time of Hellas Civilization, various abnormalities and Bezels were observed among the different sections of the Society especially, there was an unsound and amiss collision in different customs and traditions with Female class.

For example in Athenians who are the oldest civilized nation of the world, women were used as worthless goods and they were buying and selling in the market and she was counted unclean, foul and member of devils.

In Indian tradition, it's narrated about women; Plague, Death, poison, Fire, Snake, and hell all are better than Women.

from another side Shariah of Torah is also not kinder than Indian Tradition, its narrated in Safar-e Jami that " I Started doing study and Investigating with my Heart to know, do research and get wisdom and intellect that ignorance and stupidity is absolute evils and madness and finally I found that Women is more bitter than Death. And women are like trapping a mean by which animal can be cached "I found one good and a wise man among thousands of people but I did not found any single wise woman among all the

women". In 586 B.C a conference was held in France in which the core topic was that "Is woman comes under human's category or not" the final result of this conference was that "Woman is human but created for the serving of man".

In England, an instruction issued by the "Eight Art" in which it was mentioned that women are banned from reciting and studying Holy books, likewise in the constitution of 1850 of England woman was not counted as part of the population. Even women had the condition in the earth of Arab tribes before Islam ^[1].

Women in the Ignorance Period

Women did not have the right taking inheritance from their relatives, women did not have right on her husband, the number of divorces was specified and there was no limit for having wives.

A woman who was divorced by her husband has to set for one complete year and during this time she was not allowed to wear clean and new clothes and she was also not allowed to use perfumes and go outside of the house. During the ignorance period, female slaves are compelled by Arabs to have illegal relations with others and sell their selves in

¹ Ziano, Muhammad Ibn Jamel, Islam and the Women veneration, Translator; Muhammad Gul Gumshadzihi; p. 3.

order to earn money ^[2].

Allah (swt) says: “. And do not compel your slave girls to prostitution, if they desire chastity, to seek [thereby] the temporary interests of worldly life ^[3]. Group marriage of men with one woman and woman has the right to give her child to any one of the husbands.

The husband was forcing women to do sex with one of the person who is famous and head of the tribe in order to have such brave children.

Temporary marriage, a type of marriage that was also prevalent from that time.

Shanghai Marriage, this is a type of marriage in which a person gives his daughter or sister to another person for marrying with her but the condition is that the next person should also give his daughter or sister in exchange for the first person for marrying her, without determining dowries for their sisters or daughters because those people possessing women as their property.

As they were free to choose or bring changes in their other properties the same they were free to choose and do anything which they wanted with women.

But among some developed Arab tribes of that time like Qureshi, the way of getting married was different, it was the same as Muslims are doing today for example when someone wanted to marry a girl first a request is being sent to her, determining her dowry then making a contract of marriage in between.

Islam teaches us the same process of getting married but some oppressively traditions are there like not giving the dowry money of the women, forcibly giving a girl to someone which she does not like to marry with him or does not allowing her to marry with someone which she does likes ^[4].

Omer (Raziallahu tala alihi) says: "We were counting women as nothing in the time of ignorance before Islam but when Islam got appeared and Allah swt mentioned the rights of women in the Quran, we thought that women do have rights on us" ^[5].

Arabs at the age of Ignorance were disagreeable with women and they were taking women as sinisterly and due to shame for their other relatives, they were burning their daughters alive.

Islam did not accept Arab's this worst habit and it has been mentioned in Quran «And when one of them is informed of [the birth of] a female, his face becomes dark, and he suppresses grief. He hides from the people because of the ill of which he has been informed. Should he keep it in humiliation or bury it in the ground? Unquestionably, evil is what they decide» ^[6].

Imam Mawradi says: that their faces were getting black and dark while receiving news of the birth of females and this is the words of populace scholars as well ^[7].

The meaning of this verse is that the facial Color of that person was turning into a condition like a person who faces the severity of grief and becoming angry.

Appliances and instruments of happiness are shining the face and bigness of it. Whereas the signs of sadness and

grief are blackness and darkness of the face ^[8]. Indeed it's like the same, whenever those ignorant people were getting aware of the daughter's birth in their house, directly their faces were getting dark and becoming angry.

Unfortunately today also there are some people that by getting aware of the daughter's birth they become sad and their faces turn to a dark condition even they maledict and abuse their wives.

These kinds of activities of the people show that still they are not fully following the commands of the Quran and the ideas of that ignorant people before Islam is in their mind. In the above verse "Kazeem" means full sorrowfulness and anger ^[9]

Allama ibn Manzoor translated "Kazeem" as silence ^[10]

Hazrat Abdullah Ibn Abbas says that "Kazem" means anger and Sorrow.

Akhfash Says, that "Kazeem" refers to a person who does not disclose his grief and sadness but hiding it.

Ali ibn Esa Says that the word "Kazim" has derived from "Kazama" Arabian people were using "Kazam" while they were closing the mouth of waterskins ^[11].

Therefore a person who is very sad internally looks like a water-skin that is full of water or oil and his mouth is banned from a lot of sadness. Kazim refers to closing breath ^[12].

In the above mention Verse the Word "Yatawara" (hiding and covering selves) it means bestrewing and covering selves from people's eyes due to shame ^[13]. Burying girls in the ground was known as "Waad" among them ^[14].

There are still some people in today's era who are following the ideas of those ignorant people, unfortunately, these people are so hardheartedly even Quran did not impact their opinions but they are giving preference to ignorance era. There are still some fathers who are unhappy with having girls in the house since they call themselves as wise people. In the Quran there is a complete Surah (Chapter) by the name of Women (Nisa), indeed this shows having respect and honor for the women. Whereas there is not any single chapter (Surah) by the name of the man in the whole Quran. Especially Mother has a high position and honor in Islam and the mother is mentioned in many places in the Quran. Allah swt emphasized and advised after His worship on the right and doing well with the Mather ^[15].

Position of Quran

Quran has clearly expressed its position for struggling with this ignorant culture as follows...

1. «Unquestionably, evil is what they decide» ^[16]

To know that the command which was given by them was very awful and bad.

After that when the Quran explained their ignorance and inhumanity culture and it considered their acts in an extremely clear manner to the real Muslims.

It's said by Quran to the Muslims that the actions and habits of the ignorant age's people are one of the extremely bad and illegal actions and no one of Muslims who are

⁸ Tafseer-ul-Kabir (Mafatih-ul-Ghaib), Vol. 20. P. 225.

⁹ Id.

¹⁰ Lisanul-Arab, Vol. 12. P. 520.

¹¹ Tafseer-ul-Maawardi, Vol. 3. P. 194.

¹² Mufradat-ul-Qur'an. P. 152.

¹³ Aysar-ul-Tafaseer. Vol. 3. P. 128.

¹⁴ Id. Vol. 3. P. 129.

¹⁵ Islam and the Women veneration, p. 2.

¹⁶ Holy Qur'an [An-Nahl: 59]

² Id. At 3.

³ Holy Quran, [An-Nur: 33]

⁴ Islam and the Women veneration, p. 5.

⁵ Sahih-Ul-Bukhari, Vol. 6. P. 157.

⁶ Holy Qur'an [An-Nahl: 58-59]

⁷ Tafseer-ul-Maawardi, Vol. 3. P. 194.

following all the commands of the Quran should not follow the ideas and ideology.

2. Quran Kareem has clearly mentioned that the killing of offspring especially girls are banned and forbidden whether it's due to poverty or shame.

Most of the people of that time were killing their daughters due to poverty, Allah (swt) says about them.

«And do not kill your children for fear of poverty. We provide for them and for you. Indeed, their killing is ever a great sin»^[17]

Imam Bukhari (R) narrates from Abdullah (Raz) that says: (Hey Messenger of Allah what is the biggest sin? He replied that "Making partner with Allah is the biggest sin, whereas He Almighty Created you, Then I asked him what is the next biggest sin; Messenger of Allah replied him that "Killing of daughters due to poverty", Again I asked, what is the next one, He replied "Fornicating and having illegal relation with the neighboring wife"^[18]

3. Allah says: «And when the girl [who was] buried alive is asked, for what sin she was killed»^[19]

(Al-Mo'data) means "The girl {who was} buried alive", some of the Arabians before Islam were burying alive their girls due to the following reasons, Fear for poverty, fear of shame, adultery and they had fear of that our girl will be arrested during wars as slave, But this can be really the sign of oppressiveness it's said that every alive if killed without any reason is "Al-Mo'data" it will be questioned)^[20]

4. The killing of the children especially girls was indeed due to their polytheistic faith it was encouraging them to do such kind of unhumanitarian actions.

Whereas Allah says: «And likewise, to many of the polytheists their partners have made [to seem] pleasing the killing of their children in order to bring about their destruction and to cover them with confusion in their religion. And if Allah had willed, they would not have done so. So leave them and that which they invent»^[21]

Even so, in the eyes of most of the pagans, their "partners" made alluring the slaughter of their children, in order to lead them to their own destruction, and cause confusion in their religion. If Allah had willed they would not have done so: But leave alone them and their inventions"^[22]

5. The killing of children is a sign of ignorance and idiotism, Likewise, Allah says: "Those will have lost who killed their children in foolishness without the knowledge and prohibited what Allah had provided for them, inventing untruth about Allah. They have gone astray and were not {rightly} guided."^[23]

6. Islam has guided humans and it has not only rejected all those absurd and meaningless ideas but it was one of the conditions that when a woman was going to bring Islam she was compelling and required to not kill her children and Muslims should not do this kind of actions.

likewise, Allah swt says: "O Prophet, when the believing women come to you pledging to you that they will not associate anything with Allah, nor will they steal, nor will they commit unlawful sexual intercourse, nor will they kill

their children"^[24]

7. Mughira Ibn Shoba (Ra) narrates from Prophet PBUH in which he has clearly explained the position of Prophet Mohammad for Muslims. He says:(that Messenger of Allah told, that Allah has prohibited disobedience of Mother, burying the girls alive in the ground, taking something by force and do not give the rights of others on you all. And babble (meaningless talks), wanting more from others and wasting property have put disagreeable^[25].

8. Another dangerous problem of the people of ignorance time was that they were making out a women who gives birth of female in the home because according to the women are responsible and have more role in the giving of female birth, unfortunately, this kind of ideas still going on among some of our societies, whereas Allah 14 hundred years ago has explained about this issue: Allah says:" To Allah belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth; He creates what he wills. He gives to whom He wills female {Children}, and He gives to whom He wills males. (49). Or He makes them {both} males and females, and He renders whom He wills barren. Indeed, He is knowing and competent (50)^[26].

9. Quran has also rejected the wrong ideas of common scholars and the researcher of this modern time about birth of a male and female child, whereas some of them say that woman has more role in the selection of birth gender as compare to man.

According to the explanation of this verse of the Quran; Allah says: "And that He creates the two mates-the male and female (45), from a sperm, dropped when it's emitted. (46)"^[27]

In this verse, it's clearly mentioned that the birth of males and females comes from the sperm of man dropped in woman, and woman's intervention is zero in this case.

In the world, there were Oxymoron ideas and opinions about this issue, in the 18th century, when the western world paved the way to the knowledge and started doing researches and at the time of discovering microscope, found that in the new birth the selection of gender belongs to the male-only.

After some time this has been criticized by the scholar and a new theory came into the mind of people it was that the birth of males and females belongs to the ovule of woman and ma's sperms are only for stimulating.

During the 17th and 18th centuries, these kinds of ideas and research were going on between the scholars.

Whereas Prophet Mohammad PBUH has clearly explained this issue about 14 hundred years ago.

In a Hadith in Musnad Ahmad from Abdullah ibn Masoud narrates that once upon a time a Jews crossed Mohammad PBUH and One Quraishi Arab said to him, O Jews Mohammad is claiming to be the last prophet, Jews said; I am going to ask him a question, whereas my question is not answered by others except Nabi (Messenger); Jews asked from Mohammad PBUH "O Mohammad from what has human created? He replied that human is created from the sperm of man and woman together, the bones and nerves create from the sperm of man because it's thick, meat and blood creates from the ovule of a woman because it's thin. Jews said that exactly this was the answer to prophets before

¹⁷Holy Qur'an [Israel: 31]

¹⁸ Sahih-ul-Bukhari, Vol. 6. P. 18.

¹⁹ Holy Qur'a, [At-Takwir: 8-9]

²⁰ Tafseer Noor, p. 2.

²¹ Holy Qur'an, [Al-An'am: 137]

²² Tafseer Noor, p. 82.

²³ Holy Qur'an, [Al-An'am: 140]

²⁴ Holy Qur'an, [Al-Mumtahana: 12]

²⁵ Sahih-ul-Bukhari, Vol. 8. P. 4.

²⁶ Holy Qur'an, [Ash-Shura: 49-50]

²⁷ Holy Qur'an, [An-Najm: 45-46]

you as well ^[28].

Shaheed Sayeed Qutab (rah), in the explanation of the following verse of the Quran: «And it is He who has created from water a human being and made him [a relative by] lineage and marriage. And ever is your Lord competent [concerning creation]» ^[29] Says: one of the wonderments in creation of human is the secret of selection of gender during the period of Zygote because male and female child comes amazingly into existence from similar cells of sperms and similar ovule whereas among 1000 of male's sperms there is no such a special cell which is to be able to select the gender of child, male or female likewise there is no such a special cell in the ovum of Women to be able to bring male or female child, so due to this composition one cell of sperm joins with one ovum of women and brings male child and other sperms of man joins with woman's ovum and brings female child ^[30].

In one of the Hadith of Rasoolullah PBUH, it comes which Abi-Sayeed Khudri (Raz) narrates; Prophet PBUH says anyone of you if having three daughters and sisters if you do well with them Allah swt will definitely reward you Paradise (Janah) ^[31].

Prophet PBUH also says, in another hadith which Abu-Hurairah (Raz) narrates: "a person came and asked from Prophet PBUH that who is worthier to me than others, He replied your Mother, again that person who is next one, He replied your Mother for the third time also he is asked that who is next one worthier to me than others, He replied your mother, for the fourth time that person asked from Rasoolullah PBUH that who is the next one, He replied you Father, so this is a clear reason that Mother has to be respected more than father ^[32].

Conclusion

Persons who were claiming to be the most civilized people of the past ages like Egyptians and Indian were not even agreed to give the humanitarian rights to the female section of the humans they counted women as most dangerous alive thing, having girl in ignorance time was a shame or they were killing their daughters due to the fear of poverty and they also believed that only women are responsible for giving female child.

Quran and Hadiths have rejected all such ideas which were against women and Said that having a girl is not shame but she is the one who makes relativeness and friendship, a time she will be mother and sister and the future generation is connected to her.

Quran also strongly rejected the faith-based on which they were killing their daughters due to poverty and mentioned that aliment and food are only given by ALLAH (swt) to you and them as well.

From the time when Quran sent down by the Allah swt guides its followers and all humanity to not follow and keep away from all those actions like the killing of daughters, and Quran has also forbidden Muslims from doing actions which harm the personality of women.

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²⁸ Masnad-e- Imam Ahmad, Vol. 1. P. 465.

²⁹ Holy Qur'an, [Al-Furqan: 54]

³⁰ Sayed Qutb, Tafseer Fi Zilal-ul-Qur'an, Vol.1. p.122.

³¹ Sunan-al- Tirmezi, Vol. 4. P. 318.

³² Sahih-ul-Bukhari, Vol. 5. P. 2227.