

Neha.S

Islamiyat 2058/1

Ethics

(Behaviour towards others)

Sir Zafar Alam

ETHICS

POSITION OF WOMEN IN ISLAM

AS WIVES:

Before Islam wives were treated like servants and slaves. They were considered as the property of husband. They had no say even in the family matters. Polygamy was common. A person could keep any number of wives.

In Islam a woman cannot be given into marriage of someone without her consent. A husband has to give her **Mahr** (bridal money which a husband gives to his wife at the time of marriage). A husband is responsible to fulfill all the basic needs of his wife. The Holy Quran says, "**Men are the maintainers and the protectors of women because Allah has made one of them to excel the other and because they spend from their means.**" (4:34) A husband is ordered to treat his wife with kindness and affection. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "The best amongst you is one who is best to his family and I am the best of you to my family."

The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) treated his wife with kindness and respect. He never abused them. He used to teach them the correct things kindly. He also valued their suggestions and ideas. He was never a burden over his wives and he used to do his own work with his own hands. He used to give time to his wife between Asr and Maghrib. He had many wives but he always treated them with justice, according to their ages and according to their interests. A woman can own the property and can participate in financial activities but observing the rules of modesty prescribed for them in Shariah.

In case of more than a wife a person must treat them with justice. The Holy Quran says, "**You will never be able to do perfect justice between wives even if it is your ardent desire, so do not incline too much to one of them so as to leave the other hanging.**" (4:129) A wife is also given the right of **Khula** i.e. she can appeal to the court to dissolve the marriage if she is not given the rights. A wife will also be given a share from the inheritance of her husband after her husband's death.

A wife is also responsible for certain things. She is supposed to take care of the comforts of her husband. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "A woman who establishes the pillars of Islam and her husband is happy with her so she is sure to enter Paradise. She is responsible to protect her honour and property of her husband in his absence. The Holy Quran says: "**There fore the righteous women are devoutly obedient (to Allah and to their husbands), and guard in the husband's absence what Allah orders them to guard (e.g. their chastity and their husband's property)**" (4:34)



H.K (KA) took her advice and went to Warqah bin Nawfal

and advice from women would solve the problem. e.g. Shava first speculation with

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e.g. H.P hold Umana - not go to Badr Bath to take care of Ruzayna when he was sick.

o Sam also a role model for all husbands

would need his own share, do have his share.

right of khula.

men never heavily be bound out take one wife with him, he would draw it out.

to obey all commands of husband, if it is lawful.

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- before
- now
- examples.



AS MOTHERS:

Mothers were also treated like servants and slaves before Islam. The step sons used to marry the wives of their fathers after their father's death. The Holy Quran says, "And marry not women whom your fathers married, except what has already passed; indeed it was shameful, the most hateful and an evil way." (4:22)

Islam gives the most respectable place to mothers. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "Paradise lies under the feet of mothers." Once a companion asked the prophet for the permission of Jihad but that person had an old mother. So the prophet ordered him to go and serve his mother. Mother's rank in three times higher than the rank of father because she gives more sacrifices in the birth, feeding and upbringing of the children. Even the Holy Quran acknowledges her services. It says, "And We have enjoined on man to be dutiful and kind to his parents. His mother bears him with hardship. And she brings him forth with hardship." (46:15) Islam does not allow to say a word of disrespect to the parents. It says, "And be kind to your parents, if you find any one of them or both of them in old age, so do not say a word of contempt to them and do not scold them but address them in terms of honour." (17:23)

We should take care of the comforts of our mothers and should not be a burden on them. We should take care of her needs in her old age. Mothers are also given the share of inheritance. We must avoid her displeasure and disobedience as it is one of the biggest sins in Islam.

The Holy prophet used to say, "If my mother was alive and she would call me in my prayers. I would break my prayers to listen to her." When he was going to perform Hajj, he sat near the grave of his mother for a long time.

AS DAUGHTERS:

Before Islam daughters were considered a burden, so they used to bury them alive. The Holy Quran condemned this practice. It says, "And do not kill your children for the fear of poverty. It is We shall provide for them as well as for you. Surely, the killing of them is a great sin." (17:31)

But Islam teaches us that daughters are the blessings of Allah. Huge rewards are promised on the upbringing of daughters. Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "If a person brings up her daughter properly, educates her and gets her marriage so he is sure to enter Paradise." Islam orders us to treat the sons and daughters equally. Daughters are also given the share in inheritance. She will be given half of what is given to a son. The Holy Quran says, "Allah commands you as regards your children's (inheritance); to the male, a portion equal to that of two females." (4:11) Daughters also have a right to get knowledge. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "Knowledge is made obligatory on every Muslim men and women."

Be kind to your parents, with love and delivered with suffering.
I: 9 - Be kind to your parents, with love and delivered with suffering.
10 - Be kind to your parents, with love and delivered with suffering.
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12 - Be kind to your parents, with love and delivered with suffering.

high status.
"Hadis"
"Be obedient to your parents, especially in old age and do not earn Paradise through their service."
"Hadis" "The biggest sins are Shirk, killing someone and disobedience of parents."
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get share of inheritance.
companion asked H.P. who deserved more respect, H.P. replied mother, he said "I physically hurt her even though she bore me, mother happened once, 4th time go to father then."

The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) loved his daughters a lot. Whenever Fatima came to see the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H), the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) used to stand up to welcome her, kissed her forehead and offered her a place to sit. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "*Fatima is a part of my body. He who hurts Fatima hurts me.*" The fathers should treat their daughters with love and affection.

Daughters are supposed to be obedient to their parents and they should also serve their parents to comfort them. They should protect their honour and honour of their family and they should be modest.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER STATES

MUSLIM STATES:

Regarding Muslim states Islam orders us to maintain with them brotherly relations. The Holy Quran said, "*All believers are nothing else than brothers. So make reconciliation between your brothers.*" (49:10) The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "*The believers are like one body, if the eye is affected the whole body is affected and if the head is affected the whole body is affected.*" If Muslims are suffering in any part of the world like in Kashmir, Palestine, Afghanistan so Muslims should help them politically and financially. Ansar helped Muhajreen when they were suffering tortures in Makkah. They gave them shelter in their town and helped them financially.

Muslim states should maintain their unity. The Holy Quran says, "*And hold fast by the rope of Allah altogether and be not divided among yourselves.*" (3:103) The Muslim states should have a common platform to discuss the issues of Islamic world and find out the solutions. OIC (Organization of Islamic Conferences) was founded with the same objective but it should be effective and all Muslim countries should implement its resolutions. The Muslim states should cooperate with each other in the field of defense, politics and trade etc to strengthen each other. They must avoid depending on the non-Muslim states.

Muslims must not become the allies of non-muslims against their Muslim brothers. The Holy Quran says, "*O you who believe! Take not the Jews and the Christians your Auliya (friends, protectors, helpers), they are but the Auliya of each other.*" (5:51)

If any Muslim states start war against each other so other Muslim states should make reconciliation. The Holy Quran says, "*And if two parties (or groups) among the believers fall to fighting, then make peace between them both. But if one of them outrages against the other, then fight you (all) against the one that which outrages till it complies with the Command of Allah.*" (49:9)

NON-MUSLIM STATES:

Regarding non-Muslims states, Islam orders to maintain relations with them on the basis of justice. We should never do injustice to them and we should not accept injustice. The Holy Quran says, "**and let not the enmity and hatred of others make you avoid justice. Be just, it is next to piety.**" (5:8) The Holy Prophet signed treaty with the Jewish tribes after migration to Madinah and that was completely based on justice.

If non-Muslim states are not involved in anything against Islam and Muslims, so we can maintain with them the friendly relations, like Pakistan has friendly relations with China. But those non-Muslim states which are involved in aggression against Muslims, like Israel or they make fun of Muslim belief like Denmark, they cannot be treated as friends. Muslims should try to maintain peaceful relations with non-muslims. The Holy Quran says; "**But if they incline to peace so you should also incline to it, and put your trust in Allah.**" (8:61) The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) signed the treaty of Hudaibiya with Quraysh to maintain peace. After signing treaties we should honour them. The Holy Quran says, "**O you who believe! Fulfil (your) obligations.**" (5:1)

Whenever the discussions take place at some international level like in UN so Muslims should give preference to the guidance of the Holy Quran and Sunnah, instead of the pressure exerted on them by non-muslims. Relations of the heads of the states should also be good. When the ruler of Egypt, Cyrus, sent some gifts to the Prophet (P.B.U.H), he accepted the gifts.

In the case of war Islam does not allow Muslims to do unnecessary bloodshed. The Holy Quran says: "**Fight in the way of Allah those who fight you but transgress not the limits. Truly, Allah likes not the transgressors**" (2:190) The Holy Prophet always abided by the clauses of the treaties signed by him.

RIGHTS OF NON-MUSLIMS

The non-Muslims who live in an Islamic state are known as "**Dhimmi**". They pay an annual tax known as "**Jizya**". These non-muslims are given religious freedom and will not be forced to accept Islam. The Holy Quran says, "**Let there be no compulsion in religion.**" (2:256) When the Prophet (P.B.U.H) migrated to Madinah, he signed a treaty with the Jewish tribes in which he gave religious freedom to everyone.

They will be given protection of their life, property and honour. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "**Their blood is like our blood and their property is like our property.**" The non-Muslims will be allowed to produce and consume even those things which are unlawful for Muslims such as wine and pork. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "**Wine for them is like vinegar for us and pork for them is like goat for us.**"

We should not make fun of the non-Muslims' beliefs and practices but We should talk to them in a knowledgeable way. The Holy Quran says: "*Invite to the way of your Lord with wisdom and fair preaching. And argue with them in a way that is better.*" (16:125)

If non-Muslims are very poor so we can help them financially but we cannot give them Zakat. We should maintain good relations with them. Exchange of gifts is also allowed as the Holy Prophet accepted the gifts of the ruler of Egypt. They will be treated with justice and will be given their share in politics, employment and education. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "*I will advocate that non-Muslim on the Day of Judgement who was treated unjustly by Muslims.*"

The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) set the great example by the treatment of non-Muslims. When he had no authority in Makkah, people use to torture him in different ways but he never took revenge from anyone. He treated and served that old lady with kindness, who used to throw trash on the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) and she accepted Islam. In Taif the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) was badly injured but he forgave them although he could take revenge. He treated the captives of Badr with kindness and they were surprised. In the battle of Uhud he got injured but he said, "*O Allah! Guide my people they do not know.*" And when he entered Makkah as a conqueror, he forgave all the Makkans their 13 years of persecutions and tortures. He was honest with the non-Muslims as he returned their valuables back to them before his migration to Madinah.

RIGHTS OF OTHERS

RIGHTS OF PARENTS

(The matter of women as mother is relevant to this topic. Only father's right are given here.)

About the rights of father, the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "*The pleasure of Allah is in the pleasure of father and the displeasure of Allah is in the displeasure of father.*"

Once a companion came to the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) and complained about his father. So the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) called his father and mentioned the complain. So the father mentioned all of his sacrifices he gave for his son. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) wept on his response and he said, "*You and your property belong to your father.*"

RIGHTS OF CHILDRENS

Children are the blessings of Allah. Islam orders us to treat them with kindness. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "*The one who does not show mercy to the children and does not respect the old people is not amongst us.*" The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) loved his grandsons a lot and called them flowers of Paradise. He used to play with them when he was free. When once

they enter the mosque, Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) came down from his pulpit and he made them sit in his lap. Once he heard a child crying while he was leading the prayer. He reduced his prayer so that the mother could attend her child. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) treated Zaid Bin Harith with a lot of love that he refused to go with his real father. Hazrat Anas Bin Malik served the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) for ten years but the prophet never scolded him nor beat him.

Children should be given good names. We should treat the children equally and not make the difference in their treatment. All the basic needs of the children must be fulfilled by the parents. The children should be given knowledge and education. The Holy Prophet said, ***“To acquire knowledge is obligatory on every Muslim man and Muslim woman.”*** They should be taught the good manners and the ethical values. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, ***“The best thing which a father gives to his children is the best manners.”***

RIGHTS OF NEIGHBOURS:

Islam lays a lot of emphasis on the rights of neighbours. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, ***“Angel Jibrael advised me about the rights of neighbours so frequently until I thought that they will be given the share in the inheritance.”*** A Muslim must be peaceful with his neighbours and he must avoid all such activities which cause inconvenience for his neighbours like listening to something loudly, throwing garbage in the street etc. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, ***“He will never enter Paradise whose neighbours are not safe from his mischief.”***

A Muslim should have interactions with his neighbours and he should help them in the time of need. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, ***“He is not a true believer who fills his belly and his neighbour is hungry.”*** To maintain good relationships with neighbours, the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, ***“Whenever the gravy is cooked in someone’s house so he should add some water in it and should send some of it to his neighbours”***.

The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) neighbours were very bad in Makkah. They used to disturb him but the Holy Prophet never took revenge. Neighbour is not only that person who lives next to us but everyone who is with us in some gathering or travelling is also our neighbour.

RIGHTS OF RELATIVES:

Relatives are also given some rights. We must maintain good relations with all of our relatives. We should do good with them; even they are not good with us. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, ***“He will never enter Paradise who violates the rights of relatives.”*** Allah does not accept the prayers of a person who breaks his relation for more than three days.

If the relatives are needy, so we should give them financial support. The Holy Quran says, ***“and do good to parents, kinsfolk, orphans, needy, the neighbor who is near of kin, the neighbor who is a stranger, the companion by your side, the wayfarer....”*** (4:36)

Once a person asked the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) about giving zakat to relatives. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) replied, ***"You will be given double reward for that, one for giving zakat and the other for maintaining good relations with relatives."***

We should join our relatives in the occasions of happiness and sorrow. It is a right of relative that if he invites us, we should accept his invitation. If he falls ill, we should pay a visit to him and if he dies, we should attend his funeral. We should also give guidance to our relatives and stop them from going astray. The Holy Quran says, ***"O you who believe! Ward off yourselves and yourselves and your families against a Fire whose fuel is men and stones."*** (66:6) The Holy Prophet also started preaching from his family.

RIGHTS OF FRIENDS:

The best example of friendship for Muslims is the friendship of the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) with Abu Bakr. The Holy Prophet informed him first about his experience of revelations. It shows that we should share good informations with our friends to benefit them. When the prophet invited him towards Islam, he believed him without reluctance. It means that there should be trust between the friends. Then Abu Bakr supported the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) with all of his means. It means that we should support our friends in good things but we should not cooperate with them in bad things. The Holy Quran says, ***"And cooperate with each other in virtue and piety and do not cooperate with each other in sin and enmity."*** (5:2)

We should support our friend when he needs our support. We should keep his secrets and we should give him the best advice when he asks for it.

We should be very careful in making friends as a person can never avoid the influence of friends. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, ***"The parable of a good companion is like the owner of musk. If you do not get the musk, you get the good smell of it and the parable of a bad companion is like the blacksmith's bellows, if you do not get the dirt, you cannot avoid the smoke."*** Sometime the life after death also depends on the worldly friendships. The Holy Quran quotes the words of a person who will say on the Day of Judgement, ***"O woe to me! Would that I had not taken such a one as my friend."*** (25:28) Friendship in the opposite gender is unlawful and we should observe the rules of modesty.

RIGHTS OF ENEMIES:

Although Islam condemns enmity but sometimes it becomes unavoidable, the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) also had enemies who did every thing to disturb him but he never took revenge from his enemies for their ill-treatment. But he impressed them with his good behaviour. The old lady who used to throw trash on the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) accepted Islam, when she fell ill and only the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) served her.

The Holy Quran says, ***"Repel a bad thing with a good one and then the one between whom and you there was enmity will become your close friend."*** (41:34) The Holy Prophet

(P.B.U.H) converted many of his enemies to his supporters in this way, like Khalid Bin Waleed , Umer, Abu Sufyan etc. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) was honest even with his enemies. He returned their valuables back to them before their migration to Madinah. He also treated them with justice and he never misused his power and authority against them, like the treatment of the Jewish tribes.

The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) always tried to maintain peaceful relations with his enemies. He signed Treaty of Hudaibiya with Quraysh just for peace. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) always forgave and showed mercy to his enemies like visit to Taif and Conquest of Makkah. Even in war we are not allowed to do unnecessary bloodshed. The Holy Quran says: *"Fight in the way of Allah those who fight you but transgress not the limits. Truly, Allah likes not the transgressors"* (2:190)

RIGHTS OF BUSINESS PARTNERS:

Islam is a complete code of life. It does not guide us in spiritual matters but also guides us in our worldly activities such as trade. Islam wants to promote honesty in the world of trade. The Holy Prophet worked as a partner in trade with Khadija and proved to be honest in all of his dealings as Maysarah witnessed him through out the journey. The Holy Quran says; *"O you who believe! Do not eat your property amongst yourself by wrong means except it be a trade amongst you, by mutual consent."* (4:29) The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) also condemned dishonesty. He said, *"The one who cheats is not amongst us."* The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) also said, *"An honest trader will be with the prophets, truthful and the martyrs."*

Business partners must avoid dealing in riba because it is strictly haram in Islam. The Holy Quran says, *"Allah has made trade lawful and riba unlawful."*(2:274) It also says, *"O you who believe! Observe your duty to Allah and leave what remains from riba if you are believers and if you will not do, take a notice of war from Allah and His messenger."* (2:278-279)

The business partners must also make sure that their transactions are free from the element of uncertainty like lotteries and insurance. The business partners must avoid all types of deceits like short measuring and weighing, mixing the inferior quality in the good quality, selling the defected items without informing. The business partners are advised to make documents of important transactions to avoid misunderstanding in future. The Holy Quran says, *"O you who believe! When you contract a debt for a fixed period, write it down."* (2:282) The business partners should think for the collective benefits instead of their personal benefits.

RIGHTS OF ANIMALS:

Animals are also given certain rights as they are living beings and they have feelings. Islam does not allow killing of animals without any valid reason. The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) ordered not to overburden the domestic animal. Once he saw a camel very hungry and tired. So he called his owner and told him that he was answerable about the rights of these speechless animals. Once he told his companions about a lady of Banu Israel who captured a cat and did not give any food or drink to her until the cat died. So that lady was punished in the Hell fire. Once he saw a person slaughtering a goat with a blunt knife so he said to him, "**You killed it twice, sharpen your knife before slaughtering animals.**" Islam does not allow to arrange fights between the animals just for fun. It does not allow to make a tied animal your target. A person can keep pets but it will be his responsibility to take care of their food and shelter.

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Hadith, "The creation in the family of Allah
is the best in the eyes of Allah
in one who is best to his family."

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Alhamdulillah