

The Disgrace of Womankind in the Ancient and Modern Civilization and Cultures. A Comparative Analysis with the Teachings of the Holy Prophet (PBUH)

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ABSTRACT:

The present study sheds light on the disgrace of women over the centuries. The way this world has been treating and treats at present, women, and how different culture in context of religious has given the status is the focal points of this analysis. The present-day woman is not an embodiment of the slogans of liberty, equality and freedom. The present-day woman is what she was never before. The research investigates how this particular status has been a subject to the contrary practices of the above mentioned Slogans. Do Slogans embody the existence of women or they just create an illusion? The comparative study and analysis of women status in different religions' and cultures pinpoints the actual physical mental, social and economic inequalities they have been suffering through. So the very idea of a liberated woman is the question the present study seeks to answer. Moreover, it explores what status Islam has given to women in real, and what misinterpretations are associate to their status.

Keywords: womankind, woman liberation, women rights, modern civilization.

The world history before the advent of Islam is a witness that how Hindustan, China, Greece and Rome which were supposedly, the cradles of culture and civilization treated the fair sex with all barbarism. The commentaries on some verses of the holy Quran give the idea of the treatment meted to women before Islam. The status and position given to women of exploitation and cruelty are made clear before Islam in these verses. They will be mentioned ahead. Moreover, there is a need to bring to light the status given to women by the religions of the world. No less the West has treated women, and degraded the fair sex by taking her as a tissue paper through the falsification of enchanting Slogans of Women Emancipation and Women Empowerment etc. Unless they are discussed fully the reality of Islam and the rights are given to women cannot be understood completely and clearly. After mentioning these issues it will be cleared that Islam is the only religion that has given women such respectful status as of

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mother, daughter, sister and wife. Islam does not make tall promises and proclamation unlike the other world religions. Through real practice of Islam it is cleared that Islam gives women their due rights.

Endorski states that it was properly known in Greek about women that fire burnt and bite by snakes could be cured but there was no cure of infliction of a women. Socrates says, "There is no greater sedition and mischief than women."¹ Plato Says, "All mean and cruel men, due to their action one day or the other will change into women". Kadees Burmar is of the view, "women is the cat's paw of Satan". Yuhana Mushki says, "Women is the daughter of pretension and deception and enemy of peace and safety". Women were worse than concubines in the Roman Empire. The Roman believed that women did not have any right of enjoyment comfort and easiness. Women used to be killed on small mistakes and were burnt alive on baseless allegations. Alexander VI in 1494 and Louis X in 1521 Mainerene shashama in 1522 murdered ruthlessly women and children on the allegation of which crafts. The history of whole Europe is made bloody with such killings. Thousands women were burnt in rein of Queen Elizabeth and James I. According to the saying of Dr. Springer ninety thousand women in Europe were burnt alive. There was no distinction in between wife and sister in Iran. The Christians of the east did not have difference in between mother and sister. The women could be wife in many brothers in Hindus.²

Mani (215-276 AD) was a religious leader of Iran. The believer in his religious life, according to the religion, isolation from the world and wife was necessary to him. They used to hate women which was a reaction to Zoroastrian priest. The Iranian Civilization was so much morally low that in 5th century AD Yazd Gardoem kept her daughter as his wife and then killed her.³ The famous Chinese traveler Hoin Siang says that there was no exception of any relation for conjugal relationship in Iranian Law and society.⁴ In the ancient Egyptian society the ideas made grounds about women are reflected in the answer of Aziz of Egypt which he gave after mischief of the Zulekha was proved; "This is the cleverness of women. Verily, your cleverness is seditions."⁵

Hinduism:

"Woman is not allowed to read "Ved" (Muno Sumerti)⁶. She is a sinner. In the second life she will have her rebirth as a Bunya, or Janitor. (Baghwat Gita) A woman being animal, janitor and a woman, is born to be beaten. (Tulsi Das) The life of woman used to be impossible after the death of her husband. She used to prefer death on life and because of it she was burnt alive with her dead husband. It was known as 'Satti', to burn herself alive with the dead body of her husband. Moreover, they believe that the world is house of Sin, so, as far as

possible one should avoid the worldliness. The need of spiritual life as according to their belief, that man should refrain from being closer to woman. Because of this belief Saints and Hermits have life of celibacy.⁷ The Hindu Historian Rama Shanker Tarpathi, high light the misery and disgrace of woman and writes in his book “History of Ancient India”, the status of woman in the society was not high in any respect. Woman was not allowed to be inheritor of her father’s property nor she had the right to be owner of her own personal property. If she used to earn a little bit it used to go into the ownership of her father or husband. The birth of a girl child was taken as a curse⁸. It is the maximum of Burham Era that a girl brings miseries with her, a boy is the light of the seven skies⁹. As soon as husband had died only two ways were left as option for her. Either she should die, in form of burning herself alive with the dead husband as a sign of sacrifice or be alive to live miserable life throughout. The later situation mean to shave her hair of head. Mere one food only in the time of morning, dressed all the time in dirty and soiled clothes and taken a bad omen in the society.¹⁰

Buddhism:

“As fish goes into deep sea, so one the multifold in intrigues are of a woman. She is such a witch who has many seditions. In Her truth is false, false is truth. Woman cannot attain Nirvan transcendental situation—salvation. Gotam Budha adopted beggary after leaving home and family. Bukhsho and Bukhshan minstrel beggars, male and female, hate to the utmost the conjugal life. They beg to feed themselves. It is very common way of life in them. (Sayings of Budha).¹¹

Greece:

Pindora was a woman in Greek mythology. All curses and miseries in the world are due to her. She is responsible for all vices. Women in Greece, used to be locked in harems.¹²

Christianity:

In Christianity woman is sex toy. Father can merry with his own daughter and sister. Rival of Alexander of Greece Darra (330 BC) was the son of her father’s sister and grandson. Respect of women was badly tarnished.¹³ Mazdok (488 AD) propagated a new creed which had declared wealth, land and woman common. Woman turned out to be sensual queen only. Mazdak declared women lawfully to common to men¹⁴. The first man Adam was allured by a woman. Eve- on the incitement of Satan, and was expelled from the paradise. In this way the first sin, according to the Jews, was committed by a woman, in the penalty of which mankind was sent to the world.¹⁵ But according to the Holy Quran, Satan allured the both; and Satan whispered evil suggestions to them.¹⁶

Jesuits:

A holy Saint of Jesuits Tertullian (160-220 AD) writes; “You know you are the off-spring of Eve. Curse on you. You are door of Satan. You showed Adam the prohibited tree. You first of all, disobeyed the command of God. You seduced Adam to sin. The son of God was crucified because of your sin.”¹⁷ “Another holy Saint of Jesuits Pope Gregory (590-604 AD) writes; Python is very dangerous, fox is very cunning but women is more than of the both. In council of Niece (325 AD) Christian scholars and priests were gathered. They pass a verdict there that woman is away from humanity. Her nature is blotted.”¹⁸

In the Medieval Ages a woman was not independent and she did not have a separate personality. She was not capable to be the owner of anything. She, rather, used to be the possession of man for whole life. Before marriage she was the part of the possession of father, and used to be called Miss Johnson. She used to become the part of possession of husband after marriage. A conference of Christian persist was held in Spain called “Synod of Alvime”, in 305 AD. This conference made it imperative for Priest and Non to pass their lives in complete celibacy. Catholics practice this even today.¹⁹

Disgrace of Women in Babylonian Civilization:

Woman, in this civilization were treated with much disgrace. Man had every right, in this civilization to use women in every way. He could murder her, sell her, use her to earn through prostitutions for the sake of his financial worries. Due to this adulterating, in Babylonian civilization, was very common²⁰. Mesopotamian civilization which remained for above one thousand year in the half northern area of Iraq that include Seminarian, Acadian. Babylonian and Aashornian civilization and populations their rise and fall, man had the right to pull his wife’s hair, twist her ears and cut them, and to smash her teeth with solid bricks in case of dispute and difference without any fear.²¹

The Ancient Russian Civilization was Treating Women Cruelly:

A Russian philosopher Keira beaus Tim mentioned woman as a subject of hatred. “She is an embodiment of dirt and selfishness”²². An other philosopher Atomy writes that there is nothing more mischievous than a woman, and says: “I say with full confidence that woman is ninety nine percent sedition, mainly because ninety nine part of her is wickedness in her nature and only one part is virtuous. She is such a fire from which escape is rather impossible.”²³

The Ancient Chinese Civilization Exploited the Right of Women:

Famous traveler Asim Ibne Shariq in his travelogue, while given the description of china, writes about woman. In 592 AD it was a custom in china that after the wedlock, the father of the bride used to advise the bridegroom that women was

the embodiment of seduction, wickedness and mischief. It was necessary to be careful against the cunningness and cleverness of her love and affectionate talks and seducing ways were not too relied. She always present herself innocent, with no sin and a paragon of innocence. But in real, she is the motive of mischief, wickedness and seduction. (Asim Ibn Shariq: Travelogue Shariq: Travel to china, Beirut)²⁴. Chinese man had right to bury his wife alive and after the death of him his concubines were buried in the grave so that he could enjoy their beauty and body in the hereafter.²⁵

Hatred with Women in the Arab Society before Islam:

Only two things would be sufficient to justify this topic, then to give much details. These two examples are also mentioned in the Holy Quran in regard of respect. These example will explain the exploitation of women in the Arabs cruelty and barbarian treatment. If the Arabs were given good news of the birth of a girl child they used to be angry. The Holy Quran presents this in these words. “And when to one of them is conveyed the tidings of the birth of a female, his face darkens, while he suppresses his inward grief”. “He hides himself from the people because of the bad news he has had:” Shall he keep it in spite of disgrace or bury it in the dust? Verily, evil is that which they judge”²⁶. Allah says further, “Yet when tiding are given to one of them (female) of that he ascribes to the gracious God, his face becomes darkened and he is choked with grief.”²⁷

As mentioned before, the Arabs before Islam, in the time of darkness used get very much angry on the birth of daughters. They use to hide themselves from the people and take it as defeat and against their honor that their daughter should go to someone else house after getting married. So, if a daughter was born to someone she was to be buried alive. The Arabs, on the whole, with all other moral and practical vices, were also involved in the cruel, inhuman vice.²⁸ The Holy Quran has pointed out this vice in the verse: “And the girl child buried alive is questioned about: ‘For what crime was she killed’”²⁹

Allama Aalosi says: This was called buried because she used to be buried with the load of clay till she used to die³⁰. Allama Ibn Kathir says: This question will be asked with wrecked girl so that her killer would be scolded more and more and feel ashamed of themselves. Much of the wrath and anger should be expressed on them, such mode would be applied to express and show the anger. It is to be understood that when the oppressed one will be asked the cruel has to speak out. What would be his position and what to say of the anger?³¹

Hafiz Bin Kathir related from Omar Bin Khatab: Qais Bin Aasim came to the Prophet and said: O Prophet I had in The Dark Ages buried alive some of my daughters. The Prophet said: Set free slaves as a compensation for this vice though

the crime was committed in The Dark Ages and now you have embraced Islam. He said O Prophet of Allah I am a man of camels. The messenger of Allah said: Sacrifice one camel as charity, as compensation for killing each daughter. Another narration gives the member up to 08 to 12 or 13 of girls buried alive. Next fear he came with hundred camels³². So, Allama Ibn Hajar dedica-tes the start of Oath taking on this reason, to Qais Bin Aasim of Bin Tamim.³³

Dr. Gustawali Ban writes about the Arab women of The Dark Ages of the Arab civilization: “Women in The Dark Ages were taken as a creature in between humans and animals whose purpose of existence was merely reproduction of race and to serve man and be-loyal. Birth of a girl was taken as a sort of bad luck, and custom of burying them alive was very common. This right was possessed by men in such a way an as an owner used to have on his possessed bitch to drown it.³⁴

Imam Dari has a narration of an event while narrating Traditions on the vices and mean customs of the ages: Once a man came to the prophet and said we were marooned in the darkness of ignorance, worshiping idols burying daughters alive and killing them. I had a younger girl when I used to make her happy she used to come to me happily. One day I called her and she came to me in the same happy mood I walked her to a nearby well. I held her hand and threw her in the well. The last voice of her I heard was O my father, O my father. The prophet was grieved after listening the incident and wept so much that his tear was dried. A person in the company said that you had made the prophet sad. The Prophet forbade him to say so and asked the narrator to narrate the incident again. Again the Prophet wept so profusely that his beard got wet with the tears. Then the Prophet said: “No doubt he is asking about the things which has made him sad. Listen! Verily Allah has forgiven the wicked actions of The Dark Ages start your actions with new mood and mode.³⁵

Bad Treament of Women in the Western Civilization:

The present day has rejected Christianity as religion and has adopted atheism. The western society where there is no value of purity where shamelessness, rather than chastity has become the sole objective, where veil and chastity are rendered unnecessary rather an obstacle of the way. When freedom from moral values came in fashion in the west, man took woman to live inside the house as a double trouble. On the one hand his lustful nature wanted to enjoy woman at every step without accepting the responsibility of woman, and on the other hand, he took it a burden to provide economical support to his legal wife. So, he solved the difficulties of economical nature at home and at job places with the slogans of Women Empowerment and Women Rights. Woman is told that

she has been a captive so far, in the house, now it is the time of freedom. So they must come out of this captivity and take part along with man in enemy work of life. They have been kept away, so far, from politics and government. Come out now and take part in the struggle of life equally. All the worldly awards and rewards are waiting for you and all high positions are looking forward to you.

Miserable women, are befouled with these deceptive slogans and come out of house. All propaganda resources, with their loud voice make her to believe that she now has been sat free from the century's old slavery.

She is free, now. Her miseries and worries are finished. Women is dragged on the streets with these deceptive slogans. She is made clerk in offices, private secretary of strange men, steno-typist, sale girls to thrive in trade, and model girls. Her every limb is made public to invite customers come to and purchase commodities. Woman, who is crowned with respect and honored by the natural religion, and who is garlanded with Chasity and Purity, now has turned out to be a show piece and commodity of enjoyment to sooth the weariness of man.³⁶

Mufti Taqi Usmani has given the details of the western civilization bearing the western effects in such a beautiful way. He says: "Today every mean work is for women. Freedom of women is to make her access in the politics and government. But just see, in this long duration how many women, in the western countries have become president or prime ministers, judges, and other high positions. If statistics data is collected it reveals that only a few women attained the high status. In the name of a few women thousands of women were dishonored cruelly on the streets and markets. If is the tragic aspect of fraudulent women emancipation. All low status jobs, in the west are given to women. Waiter in restaurant are rare. These services are for women. Women work as janitors in hotels, to change bed sheets as room attendants. All works from waiter to clerk are for the fair sex who has come out of the captivity of house. It is a strange propaganda of the western civilization that if she serve in house her father, mother, husband, children and brother, it is taken captivity and disrespect. But if the same woman serves strange men, cook for them, clean their room, becomes stewardess in hotels, planes and buses to attract customers with her smile, please officers in offices, all this is taken as freedom and honor.³⁷

Moreover, she is not free from house chores even after performing eight hours hard and disrespectful duties, home services are her responsibilities. In Europe and America majority of women cook, wash dishes and clean house after performing eight hour duty. See! What sort of cruelty has not been inflicted on women in the garb of the deceptive slogan?³⁸

Weak Reason for Bringing Women out of House:

We cannot stop development and progress of a country by rendering half of the population useless is a common reason given. It means that every man of the country is provided with job and still many works are left undone, man power is much needed, so women are needed to work for putting the country and nation on way of development and progress. The half of the population should not remain useless. This reason is presented by those countries where men of high calibers are unemployed. First get these men hundred present engaged in the development and progress of the country. They do have responsibilities of house, like he has to look after the family. Let the half population be employed, then after think of the other half.³⁹

Views of Ex-President, the last Soviet Union:

Michael Gorbochov in his book *Perestroika* he writes about women in one chapter of the book, 'status of women'. In our western society: Women has put out of house. In result, we did have some economical benefits after putting women out of house, Production has increased because both men and women are working but despite of having increase in production one necessary result is the destruction of our family system. The result of the destruction of the family system has cause a more losses then the benefits. So, I am starting in my country a movement in the name of Perestroika. The basic objective of the movement is how to bring back women to house which is putout. The methods of this are to be considered, otherwise, our whole nation would destroy similarly as of our houses and family system".⁴⁰

Mohammad Fateh Golan writes that in *Islam and the Present Time*: "As far as the talk of being a female prophet is there the scholars of Ahlesunnat-wal-jammat and scribes of the Tradition of the Prophet popularly don't believe in it. The tradition of Maryam and Asia being Prophet are weak and rear. The result is that they can't be an order with authority for prophet hood of women. Moreover, it is not a short coming not having a female prophet. God has created every thing on the basis of positive and negative. There is a difference in things like each other. There will be difference and fusion of atom and its element are with out the force of extra ordinary gravity that unites the elements. This law works in everything from galaxies to atom. Man made up of small particles works as the circle in between the atom, the little universe and the universe, the great one, the same law applies on it. In other words there should be different pairs of them to attract each other. One should be weak and the other should be strong which keeps love in between, and turns out to be the reason of formation of family.

Women, today behaving and appearing to be as a tom boy is nothing but a joke that increase their difficulties. The result of shunning femininity by women just to behave In a masculine way is the conflict in between man and woman. This

has deprived both, the family of its heads and children of family environment. Their parents put their children into nursery homes and run after their own desires. The issue of female prophet hood comes into light due to this popular divine law about women. Moreover, birth is also related to women. If the same situation would have been with men, they would have lost the ability of having prophet hood. In that case due to menstruation every month for about a week time they could not have been in a position to perform obligation of prophet leadership in religious matters and performance of fasting and prayers. Moreover, the time period of getting purified is also there and it would have been difficult to perform during the pregnancy days the responsibility of prophet hood. It's not possible to take part in wars plan forces and administration, with a child in lap or in ovum. It is necessary for a prophet to take part in war on the front. Due to all these reasons, it's impossible for a women to be a prophet. Moreover, because of these physical weaknesses worship of a women becomes faintly. Being a mother, a woman has to give birth to a child and rear up children. The personality of prophet is worth following being a leader, mentor and guide. However, for the issues of females, the wives of prophet are the teachers and preachers.⁴¹

Muhammad Fateh Golan, writes in *Islam and The Present Time*: "According to the verse men on top of women and this preference is bestowed by Allah. Male has preference over female in many ways. However, the preference should be seen through physical body limbs, for example, man is an eye, women is an ear, man is mind, women is heart. It shows both are very closely related. Blood from heart is pumped that makes brain to work, in case of brain hemorrhage, heart dies out. Both of the limbs rely on each other for their respective life, though both are different limbs being the part of the same body. If the topic is taken collectively to review, preference of male to woman cannot be denied. Male enjoys the whole time period of the year completely. He performs difficult tasks. He is more powerful both physically and psychologically than a woman. Difficult works are given to man, even in the West, like minors are always men. On the other hand, a woman, being subject to her physique and its requirements, has to spend some of her time period in menstruation, and in case of irregularity she has to pass two months on bed to recover her cleanliness. She is weaker than a man in regard of her physical power and determination. She cannot participate every time in every sort of event in a society. In case of losing her precious jewel she cannot face the people of the society. So it is needed that she should practice extreme refrain. She cannot travel long distance without a male and a lawful relation."⁴²

If we view these actions and those actions which are unnecessary to be mentioned because of their being too common and well known the preference of male to female becomes a desirable reality but at the same time, it is also a reality that a society needs both of them. Women have kindness pity and sensitivity more than a man, so up bringing is made the responsibility of her which is not possible for a man. On the other hand, man has more ability to bear the extreme pressure of situation, so he is made responsible to perform hard works. When a child start weeping in the night, father usually goes out of the bedroom, but mother goes into the room of child briskly and stays with the child till the morning. She has a love of the child to the extent of unexplainable point. A romance, fiction story, is popular that the son after killing her mother put her body into pieces when he was cutting her heart, he hurt his hands. He spontaneously said, oh, mother; in response, mother's heart cried: yes! My son! Though it's all a fiction story but explains well the love of a mother. No doubt, if some wild barbarian does inflict such cruelty on his mother and gets himself into some troubles, his mother will come first for his help and support him. This shows that in passions women is on the top of man. This preference, if taken properly, can turn out to be blessings and bliss. A woman trains a new generation, she takes it to the height with good education and training. Man passes most of the time outside home, whereas woman keeps herself busy in rearing children up all day long. Mother trains heroes, great personalities for humanity. A house can turn into heaven, if man and women bring out their respective abilities distinguished with each other as obligations.⁴³

Both man and woman are incomplete without each other. Paradise was completely equipped perfectly with everything right after the creation of Adam; Eve was created only for him. In case, Eve had been created before, creation of Adam would have followed for her. To avoid each for both of them was not possible. Woman carries out house chores and man does external works. As some of the responsibilities are difficult, so, are some of woman. But with principle of profit and loss accordingly man preference puts more responsibilities on the shoulder of man. So it is the responsibility of man to bear the expenses of wife, children and other household. The feminists talk much of the rights of woman, but that has resulted in lessening the status of woman, respect and honor of her. Woman to work, like man, go naked in winter and wearing coat in summer are just follies and nothing else. Woman is respected as long as she confines her to her right position, similar man is respected as long as he lives within his limits and does not tress pass People who want to make changes in their respective position, they are asking for the curse of the messenger of

Allah, because in this way they are waging war against the nature. The maladministration may happen in case of changing the limbs of the body from their assigned positions, like putting ear in place of knee, nose in place of stomach and eye placed underneath the foot. Same sort of maladministration will occur if the positions of man and woman are changed. It is the requirement of nature that man is man and woman is woman. People who are striving for that sort of changes are waging war against nature.⁴⁴

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