

The Significance of Marriage in Islam

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Importance of marriage in Islam

“And marry those among you who are single and those who are fit among your male slaves and your female slaves; if they are needy, Allah will make them free from wants out of His grace; and Allah is Ample-giving, knowing” (Surah an Nur,24:32)

These above mentioned verses from the Quran begins with the words **Wa Ankehoo (And marry)** which implies that it is obligatory or highly recommended to get married and this statement is also supported by the sayings of Prophet Mohammad.

“The best of my Ummah are those who get married and have Chosen their wives and worst people of my nations are those Who have kept away from marriage and are passing their lives As bachelors”

The importance of marriage can be understood from another Hadith in which Prophet Mohammad said “He who marries complete half of his religion; it now rest with him to complete the other half by leading he virtuous life in constant fear of God”.

Legality of marriage in Islam

The nature of Muslim marriage is considered a contract.

One of the key resemblance between Muslim marriage and a civil contract lies in the requirement of **Free and mutual consent**

The marriage contract initiated by a proposal (**IJAB**) from one party and acceptance (**Qubool**) from other, mirrors the essential element of a “(contractual element)”. The process highlights and shows the importance of voluntaries and their will for marriage and the absence of any compulsion in the establishment of marital union

Moreover In case of minors, a guardian (wali) may enter into a marriage contract on their behalf. However Islamic fiqh or Islamic jurisprudence allows the minor on reaching to puberty to annul the contract, hence giving another additional safety of legal protection to the vulnerable.

Despite the contractual element Muslim marriage is full of religious significance. The process of Nikkah involves the recitation of Holy Quran and a speech is delivered full of ethics and principles of Islam as well.

Rights and Duties in Islam

To make a marriage successful and live a happy and peaceful life, Islam has established certain rights and obligations upon both men and women so that they can secure a healthy relationship.

Common Rights

1. The right to enjoy each other physically as well as mentally and emotionally.
2. Right of confirmation of the lineage and their children.

The Rights of wife over husband

- The Dowry (Mehr)
- Maintenance (Expense)
- No domestic violence
- If one has more than one wife, then proper justice between all wives
- Free from Mother-in-law and Father-in-law duties
- Protect her from all problems and provide her safety
- Respect and Honor

Husbands Rights

- Head of the family
- To keep peaceful and healthy environment at home so that he can feel relaxed whenever he comes home

- Without husbands permission not to give permission to anyone (except Mehram) to enter house
- Maintenance of house ,cook food and taking care of childrens
- To be obedient, faithful and loyal towards her husband
- Not to observe any voluntary fast without the prior consent of husband

Another Hadith of Prophet Mohammad in farewell sermon which talk about the Rights of both husband and wife

“Fear Allah concerning women verily you have taken them on the security of Allah and intercourse with them has been made lawful unto you by words of Allah. You too have rights over them and they should not allow anyone to sit on your bed. Their rights upon you are that you should provide them with food and clothing in a fitting manner”

It is also mentioned in Quran “ And they women have rights (over their husbands as regards living expenses similar (to those of their husbands) over them (as regards obedience and respect) to what is reasonable , but men have a degree of responsibility over them”

Celibacy and Monasticism is Forbidden

- Islam strongly forbids Monasticism and celibacy.
- On hearing about a (Uthman) companion who was keeping fast during the day and stands for prayers during the night Prophet Mohammad said “O Uthman Allah didn’t send me for monasticism rather He send me with a simple and straight [religion]. I fast , I pray and also have intimate relations with my wife. So, whoever likes my tradition then he should follow it and marriage is one of my tradition.”

Conclusion:

Islam give marriage a special place and it has given certain guidelines and rules to make it very successful

and respectful at the same time. Marriage in Islam is an important institution which safeguards the rights of men, women and their childrens and at the same time satisfies the mental, physical, emotional as well as intellectual needs of the family members.

Refences

- [1] Quran 24:32
- [2] Mustadrakul wasail page 531
- [3] Mishkat Al Masabih 3096
- [4] Sahih Muslim 1218
- [5] Quran 2:228
- [6] Mishkat shareef- Bab-al-Nikah
- [7] Quran 30:21
- [8] Quran 17:72
- [9] Quran 7:189
- [10] Quran 2:223
- [11] Nisa 4:19
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