

Mohammad's High Regard For Women

Much has been spoken about the inhuman treatment of women in Islam. If one wants to know the reason behind this, one has to closely examine Mohammad's personal life. As far as women are concerned, they were just objects of sexual desire for Prophet Mohammad.

Here you are going to see the insatiable sexual appetite that Mohammad possessed. This goes to show that among others, one of the main reasons for forming this religion, Islam, was so that sex was freely available to the male followers in the name of Allah. As you have already seen in, *Wondrous Treatment of Women In Islam*, the Quran justifies treating a woman as nothing but an object for sexual desire and sometimes even an ordinary object would be treated better. Suras in the Quran seem to pop up conveniently, so that Mohammad can justify his sexual actions. For example, when Mohammad wanted his adopted son's wife, he suddenly got a revelation from Allah declaring it right to take another man's wife. When he wanted to stop his wives from quarreling or to accept more wives, he got a quick revelation for it. The above points are illustrated from the verses taken from Sura 33.

[al-Ahzab 33:28]

"O Prophet! Say to thy wives: 'If it be that ye desire the life of this world and its glitter then come! I will provide for your enjoyment and set you free in a handsome manner.'

[al-Ahzab 33:30]

"O Consorts of the Prophet if any of you were guilty of evident unseemly conduct, the punishment would be doubled to her, and that is easy for Allah."

[al-Ahzab 33:37]

"....But when Zaid had accomplished his want of her, We gave her to you as a wife, so that there should be no difficulty for the believers in respect of the wives of their adopted sons,"

The prophet's interactions with women, his lust for lascivious ladies, his behaviour with his wives and concubines are components that form the model of a true muslim. The prophet is the perfect muslim man for all devout muslims as he is the one whom Allah chose to reveal the Quran to. And because he is the perfect man it is every muslim's duty to follow him. For example, they cannot eat pork because Mohammad disliked it, they have to grow a beard like he had, they have to loot and kill like he did and likewise they have to molest and treat women inhumanly as he did!

1. Khadija died when Mohammad was 49 years old. Between the ages of 49 and 63 the prophet married at least 11 times.

This shows how he treated the institution of marriage. For him, women were nothing but objects for sexual fulfillment. Marrying at least 11 women in 14 years throws light on his sexual appetite.

2. Among his many other wives Mohammad also married a 6 year old baby, Ayesha. She was his favourite wife.

This marriage is a clear proof that his sexual appetite started manifesting itself after Khadija's death, because when she was alive he did not want to offend her because all the wealth belonged to her.

3. The prophet said that, "the woman can be married for religion, her fortune, or her beauty. So marry one for the religion" (Abu Issa al-Tarmidi, Sunan al-Tarmidi, Medina n.d., p.275, B: 4, H:1092)

Therefore, according to the Prophet the woman is either a creature who will be subjected to brutal conversion to Islam, a golden goose or a sexual plaything. Her virtues, intelligence or personality do not matter. But Mohammad did not stop there. He recommends all muslims to marry "one for the religion". Now what does this mean? It means that use the institution of marriage to convert people to Islam. Now you know why so many Muslim men marry non-muslims and convert them to Islam. It also shows what high regard Islam has for the sacred institution of Marriage.

4. In many occasions Mohammad did not even spare women who were originally allotted to other soldiers of his tribe after gaining a victory in War. One such woman was Safia Bint Huyay. This Jewish woman was captured by lecherous muslim invaders after the Jews were brutally murdered by Mohammad. According to a Quranic Sura (8:41) four fifths of any booty or spoil that is won after murdering the non-believers, is distributed to the barbaric invaders. In Islam, women of other religion are also considered as booty, so Safiya bint Huyay was allotted to a soldier called Dahia. But when Mohammad the ascetic heard of her 'incomparable beauty', he sent for Dahiya, paid him Safiya's price and married her. (Ibn Saad, al-Tabaqat, pp. 120-123).

5. Safiya Bint Huyway was just one of the numerous Jewish women who became prey to Mohammad's sexual desire. Regardless of his participation in these barbaric raids Mohammad was allotted 1/5 of the booty as prescribed in the Quran, Sura 8:41. Rayhana Bint Zayd was another Jewish woman, whom Mohammad captured after her tribe(Qurayza) was totally butchered. She was known to be a woman of immense beauty. Mohammad kept her as a concubine. She never accepted Islam and never accepted getting marry to Mohammad. (Ibid., p. 129)

During Mohammad's time a lot of barbaric wars were instigated by the muslims and Mohammad was always the receiver of at least one fifths of the booty. This booty included captured women and children. One can imagine how many women were made into concubines for Prophet Mohammad's pleasure and how many children were his victims.

6. Maria the Copt from Egypt, was another concubine of Mohammad. She bore him a son, Ibrahim, who died in infancy. The Prophet's desire for Maria was so strong that it led him to violate another of his ideals: "That a man should be just in his dealings with his wives. A man should keep strictly to the rotation schedule and not have intercourse with a wife, even if he so desired."

Hafsa, one of the Prophet's wives, however, caught him having intercourse with Maria in Safiya's room. 'O Prophet of God, in my room and in my day!' fulminated Safiya angrily. Afraid of the anger of his other wives, and especially of his most beloved Ayesha, he promised Hafsa never to touch Maria again(Tahrim) if she would keep the incident secret. But she told Mohammad's Secrete to Ayesha and the Prophet immediately received orders from God to retract his promise to Safiya; he then resumed relations with Maria.

[at-Tahrim 66:1]

O Prophet! why do you forbid (yourself) that which Allah has made lawful for you; you seek to please your wives; and Allah is Forgiving, Merciful.

[at-Tahrim 66:3]

And when the prophet secretly communicated a piece of information to one of his wives-- but when she informed (others) of it, and Allah made him to know it, he made known part of it and avoided part; so when he informed her of it, she said: Who informed you of this? He said: The Knowing, the one Aware, informed me.

Was Allah gossiping with Mohammad about his wives?

[at-Tahrim 66:4]

If you both turn to Allah, then indeed your hearts are already inclined (to this); and if you back up each other against him, then surely Allah it is Who is his Guardian, and Jibreel and -the believers that do good, and the angels after that are the aiders.

As you see Mohammad did not even hesitate to threaten Hafsa and Ayesha to divorce them, if they did not stop plotting against him.

[at-Tahrim 66:5]

Maybe, his Lord, if he divorce you, will give him in your place wives better than you, submissive, faithful, obedient, penitent, adorers, fasters, widows and virgins.

Now we know the real job of Allah, namely finding wives for Mohammad!

Maria's power over the Prophet is best described in Ayesha's words: "I never was as jealous as I was of Maria again. That is because she was a very beautiful, curly haired woman. The Prophet was very attracted to her. In the beginning, she was living near us and the Prophet spent entire days and nights with her until we protested and she became frightened." (Ibn Saad, al-Tabaqat, p. 212) The Prophet then decided to transfer Maria to a more secure dwelling far from his legitimate wives and kept seeing her in spite of their pressure.

7. Another woman that the Prophet married for satisfying his sexual desires was Juwariya Bint al-Harith who was according to Ayesha's description, 'so beautiful that whoever caught a glimpse of her fell in love with her.' (Ibid. p.117) Ayesha's jealousy is displayed again from the following quote: "The Prophet was in my room when Juwariya came to ask him about a contract. By Allah, I hated her when I saw her coming towards him. I knew that he was going to see what I saw (her beauty)." (Ibid)

8. Mohammad's adopted son Zayed was married to Zainab, daughter of Jahsh. But one day the prophet "beheld in a loose undress, the beauty of Zainab, and burst forth into an ejaculation of devotion and desire. The servile, or grateful, freeman (Zayed) understood the hint and yielded without hesitation to the love of the benefactor."

Mohammad was not satisfied with his own overflowing harem and had to marry his son's wife. His son being a devoted follower of the "great" prophet was more than happy to divorce his wife. What

a great father-in-law Mohammad was, a model for all Islamic father-in-laws.

9. Mohammad may have as many women as he wants

He may have those women (prisoners of war) that Allah given to him

He may have Any women that give herself to him

He may have whomever he wants, mother's, daughter's, aunt's, paternal, maternal of his followers

BUT nobody ever should marry his wives even after his dead

He may treat his women how he pleases and they should be pleased with whatever he gives them

[al-Ahzab 33:50]

O Prophet! surely We have made lawful to you your wives whom you have given their dowries, and those whom your right hand possesses out of those whom Allah has given to you as prisoners of war, and the daughters of your paternal uncles and the daughters of your paternal aunts, and the daughters of your maternal uncles and the daughters of your maternal aunts who fled with you; and a believing woman if she gave herself to the Prophet, if the Prophet desired to marry her --

specially for you, not for the (rest of) believers;

We know what We have ordained for them concerning their wives and those whom their right hands possess in order that no blame may attach to you; and Allah is Forgiving, Merciful.

[al-Ahzab 33:51]

You may put off whom you please of them (the wives of the Prophet), and you may take to you whom you please, and whom you desire of those whom you had separated provisionally; no blame attaches to you; this is most proper, so that their eyes may be cool and they may not grieve, and that they should be pleased, all of them with what you give them, and Allah knows what is in your hearts; and Allah is Knowing, Forbearing.

[al-Ahzab 33:53]

.... And when ye ask of them (the wives of the Prophet) anything, ask it of them from behind a curtain. That is purer for your hearts and for their hearts. And it is not for you to cause annoyance to the messenger of Allah, nor that ye should ever marry his wives after him. Lo! that in Allah's sight would be an enormity.

10. A unique instance of the effect of female beauty on the Prophet was that of Duba Bint Amr who 'was among the most beautiful of Arab women....her hair was long enough to cover all her body.'(Ibid., p. 153) Mohammad asked her son if he could marry his mother, but later retracted when he heard that Duba Bint Amr, although attractive, was aging.

This shows that Mohammad was only interested in physical beauty and not in providing protection for widows or some other charitable cause as the Muslims have been brain washed to believe.

Muslim scholar and statesman, Ali Dashti gives the following list of women in Mohammad's life.

1. Khadija
2. Sawda
3. Ayesha
4. Omm Salama
5. Hafsa
6. Zainab (of Jahsh)
7. Juwariya
8. Omm Habiba
9. Safia
10. Maymuna (of Hareth)
11. Fatima
12. Hend
13. Asma (of Saba)
14. Zainab (of Khozayma)
15. Habla
16. Asma (of Noman)
17. Maria
18. Rayhana
19. Omm Sharik
20. Maymuna (not of Hareth)
21. Zainab (third one)
22. Khawla
23. Duba

It was a Jewish woman who poisoned Mohammad in her rightful quest for revenge after the battle of Khaybar. During the last four years of his life, his health declined, epileptic fits became more frequent and his other infirmities increased. After living a life of destruction and plunder, at the age of 62, Mohammad gasped his last breath on the lap of his 17 year old child bride Ayesha who watched him die.

NOTE: Works of Fatima Mernissi, Dr. Robert A. Morey and A. Ghosh have been used to compose this article.

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