

Reading Selection 5.2

Lesson No. 14

Gender Inequality is

Detrimental to Society

صنفي عدم مساوات معاشرے کے لیے نقصان دہ

World's population comprises of more than 50% women. Although women account for major portion of population yet they have not been given equal rights. They have been kept deprived of enough education, health facilities and nutrition. Women are considered as "Fragile human beings" both physically and emotionally in our society.

دنیا کی آبادی پچاس فیصد سے زیادہ خواتین پر مشتمل ہے۔ اگرچہ اور دیہی آبادی کا بڑا حصہ ہیں پھر بھی ان کو مساوی حقوق نہیں دیے گئے ہیں۔ ان کو مناسب تعلیم صحت کی سہولیات اور خوراک سے محروم رکھا جا رہا ہے۔ عورتوں کو دونوں جسمانی اور جذباتی لحاظ سے کمزور اور نازک مخلوق تصور کیا جاتا ہے۔

Women, in many poor and under developing countries, lead a miserable life. In Pakistan, women face many hurdles in the race of life. They are not able to get proper education. About 70% of the population lives in rural area. In most rural areas, there are only primary schools for girls in comparison to the schools for men who have high and higher secondary schools. As most of the population is illiterate and conservative, so the parents do not send their daughters to school. That is why the ratio between male and female education is quite alarming.

غریب اور ترقی پذیر ممالک میں خواتین بہت بری حالت میں زندگی گزار رہی ہیں۔ پاکستان میں عورتوں کو زندگی کی دوڑ میں بہت سی رکاوٹوں کا سامنا ہے۔ وہ مناسب تعلیم حاصل کرنے کے قابل نہیں ہیں۔ آبادی کا تقریباً ستر فیصد حصہ

دیہاتی علاقوں میں رہتا ہے۔ زیادہ تر دیہاتی علاقوں میں لڑکیوں کے لئے صرف پرائمری سکول ہوتے ہیں۔ بہ نسبت مردوں کے سکولوں کے جن کے لیے ہائی اور ہائر سیکنڈری سکولز ہوتے ہیں۔ چونکہ زیادہ تر آبادی الٹرا پور اور قدامت پسند ہے، اس لئے والدین اپنی بچیوں کو اسکول نہیں بھیجتے۔ یہی وجہ ہے کہ عورتوں اور مردوں کے درمیان تعلیم کا تناسب بہت خوفناک ہے۔

Education is necessary if we want our nation and country make progress. It is said "If you educate a man, you educate an individual, but if you educate a woman, you educate a family"

اگر ہم چاہتے ہیں کہ ہمارا ملک و قوم ترقی کرے تو تعلیم بہت ضروری ہے یہ کہا جاتا ہے کہ اگر تم ایک مرد کو تعلیم دیتے ہو تو تمہیں ایک فرد کو تعلیم یافتہ بناتے ہو لیکن اگر تم ایک خاتون کو تعلیم دیتے ہو تو تمہیں اگلے نسل کو تعلیم یافتہ بناتے ہو۔

But women in Pakistan are deprived of such facilities. They have not been given equal opportunities of getting education. Man and woman are as the two wheels of a cart in which the function of the one wheel depends on the function of the other wheel. If one of the wheels is out of order, the other wheel cannot function well.

لیکن پاکستان میں خواتین اس قسم کی سہولیات سے محروم ہیں۔ ان کو تعلیم حاصل کرنے کے یکساں مواقع فراہم نہیں کئے گئے ہیں۔ مرد اور عورت گاڑی کے دو پہیے ہیں جس میں ایک پہیے کے کام کا انحصار دوسرے پہیے کے فعل پر ہے۔ اگر ایک پہیہ خراب ہو تو دوسرا اچھے طریقے سے کام نہیں کر سکتا۔

Islam teaches its followers that "Seeking of knowledge is the duty of every Muslim" but it is an irony of fate that this golden saying has been totally neglected in the case of women. This gender inequality is a violation of the equal human laws and rules.

اسلام اپنے ماننے والوں کو سکھاتا ہے کہ "علم حاصل کرنا ہر مسلمان پر فرض ہے"۔ لیکن یہ بد قسمتی کی بات ہے کہ اس سنہری قول کو عورتوں کے معاملے میں مکمل طور پر نظر انداز کر دیا گیا ہے۔ یہ صنفی امتیاز یکساں انسانی قوانین اور اصولوں کی خلاف ورزی ہے۔

In Pakistan, overall general health conditions are not satisfactory but women suffer more than the other members of society. Their worst situation is observed during maternity period. As hospitals and doctors are not available in remote areas, so most of the women lose their lives during child-birth. Due to this reason maternal and infant mortality rate is much high.

پاکستان میں صحت کے مجموعی حالات اطمینان بخش نہیں ہیں۔ لیکن عورتیں معاشرے کے دوسرے ارکان کے مقابلے میں زیادہ مشکلات کا شکار ہیں۔ ان کی خراب صورتحال زچگی (ماں بننے) کے دوران دیکھی جاتی ہے۔ دور دراز علاقوں میں ہسپتال اور ڈاکٹر دستیاب نہیں ہوتے ہیں۔ پس زیادہ تر عورتیں بچے کی پیدائش کے دوران مر جاتی ہیں۔ اس وجہ سے دوران زچگی اور شیرخوارگی میں شرح اموات بہت بلند ہیں۔

It has been observed and surveyed that mortality rate of mothers during child-birth is more than 30/1000 in Pakistan which is a matter of great concern. In rural

areas it is twice of this number because of the non-availability of qualified health care staff i.e. mid-wives and lady health visitors. Besides, the male members of the family do not want to take their women to the male doctors. The poor ailing women die by inches due to the sheer negligence of the male members.

یہ مشاہدہ کیا گیا ہے اور جائزہ لیا گیا ہے کہ پاکستان میں بچے کی پیدائش کے دوران ماؤں کی شرح اموات 30/1000 (ہر ہزار میں سے تیس کی) ہے جو کہ بڑی فکر مندی کی بات ہے۔ دیہاتی علاقوں میں ان کی تعداد اسے دو گنا ہے۔ صحت کے ماہر سٹاف کی عدم دستیابی کی وجہ سے۔ مثلاً دایہ، اور لیڈی ہیلتھ وزیٹرز۔ اس کے علاوہ خاندان کے مرد حضرات اپنی عورتوں کو مرد ڈاکٹر کے پاس لے جانا پسند نہیں کرتے۔ غریب بیمار خواتین اپنے خاندان کے مرد ارکان کی غفلت کی وجہ سے سسک سسک کر مر جاتی ہیں۔

This sort of gender inequality indicates that women are not treated fairly as they deserve. If women are pale, weak and frail, it is obvious that their off-springs will also be thin, weak and unhealthy. Weak and unhealthy people cannot contribute much to the progress and prosperity of a country.

اس قسم کی صنفی امتیاز ظاہر کرتا ہے کہ عورتوں کا مناسب علاج نہیں کیا جاتا۔ اگر خواتین زرد، کمزور اور نازک ہوتی ہیں تو صاف واضح ہے کہ ان کے بچے بھی پتلے، کمزور اور غیر صحت مند ہوں گے۔ کمزور اور بیمار لوگ ملک کی ترقی اور خوشحالی میں کوئی زیادہ کردار ادا نہیں کر سکتے۔

Mal-nutrition is another factor responsible for poor female health in Pakistan and some other developing countries. According to medical experts more than 60% women in Pakistan have the deficiency of vitamin D.

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ناقص غذا بھی پاکستان اور کچھ ترقی پذیر ممالک میں عورتوں کی خرابی صحت کی ایک ذمہ دار پہلو ہے۔ طبی ماہرین کے مطابق پاکستان میں ساٹھ فیصد عورتیں وٹامن ڈی کی کمی کا شکار ہیں۔

This situation is quite grave and gloomy. The quality as well as quantity of food for female and male is based on discrimination. The male members of a family are served first with good quality of food while women dine what is left behind on the dining table. It is assumed that women do not need good nutrition and can survive and grow well with low calorie intake. As a result, women fall a victim to many diseases.

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یہ صورتحال بہت سنگین اور پریشان کن ہے۔ مردوں اور خواتین کے لیے خوراک کی مقدار اور معیار امتیاز قائم ہے۔ خاندان کے مرد ارکان کو سب سے پہلے بہتر خوراک دی جاتی ہے جبکہ خواتین وہی کچھ کھاتی ہیں جو خوراک کے میز پر رہ جاتی ہیں۔ خیال یہ کیا جاتا ہے کہ خواتین کو اچھی خوراک کی ضرورت نہیں ہوتی۔ اور وہ کم کیلوری (محرارہ) کے ساتھ زندہ رہتی اور اچھی طرح پرورش پاتی ہیں نتیجتاً عورتیں بہت سی بیماریوں کا شکار ہو جاتی ہیں۔

As a matter of fact, women need good nutritious food because they have to feed and bring up children. But due to discriminatory attitude of the male members of the family, women are ignored in every walk of life. Such weak and anemic women produce sick and unnourished next generation.

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در حقیقت خواتین کو اچھی غذا بہت رکھنے والی خوراک کی ضرورت ہوتی ہے کیونکہ اُن کو بچوں کو خوراک دینا ہوتی ہے اور اُن کو پالنا ہوتا ہے۔ لیکن مرد ممبران کے اس امتیازی رویے کی وجہ سے خواتین کو ہر شعبہ زندگی میں نظر انداز کیا جاتا ہے ایسی کمزوری اور خون کی کمی کا شکار عورتیں بیمار اور غذا بیت سے محروم نسل کو جنم دیتی ہیں۔

This gender inequality depicts a horrible picture of the health conditions of women in Pakistan. This poor health situation, also hampers women participation in the economic growth of the country.

یہ صنفی امتیاز پاکستان میں عورتوں کی صحت کے حالات کی خوفناک تصویر پیش کرتا ہے۔ صحت کی یہ خراب صورتحال ملک کی معاشی ترقی میں خواتین کے کردار کی راہ میں بھی رکاوٹ ڈالتی ہے۔

Pakistani women are not independent and self-relying for their financial need. They must depend on their male members of the family. This aspect is another factor for their vulnerability. Due to lack of education, women are not able to get appropriate jobs. Women are given less job opportunities. Their quota in jobs is far less than the quota reserved for men.

پاکستانی خواتین اپنی مالی ضروریات کے معاملے میں آزاد اور خود اعتماد نہیں ہیں۔ ان کو خاندان کے مرد ارکان پر انحصار کرنا ہے۔ یہ پہلو ان کے غیر محفوظ ہونے کا ایک اور اہم سبب ہے۔ تعلیم کی کمی وجہ سے عورتیں مناسب روزگار کے حصول کے قابل نہیں ہوتیں۔ خواتین کو روزگار کے کم مواقع دیے جاتے ہیں۔ روزگار میں ان کا حصہ مردوں کے لیے مخصوص کردہ حصے سے کہیں کم ہوتا ہے۔

Women workers in industries, factories and mills are given less wages as compared to the wages paid to the male workers. Although women workers contribute much to the economy of the country yet there is no effective security plan to safeguard their rights. They are being victimized on the basis of gender.

صنعتوں، کارخانوں اور میلوں میں خواتین ملازمین کو مرد ملازمین کے مقابلے میں بہت کم اجرت دی جاتی ہے۔ اگرچہ خواتین ملک کی معیشت میں زیادہ کردار ادا کرتی ہیں۔ پھر بھی ان کے حقوق کی حفاظت کا موثر نظام موجود نہیں ہے۔ ان کو صنف کی بنیاد پر ہراساں کیا جا رہا ہے۔

More than 15 million female home-based workers are currently working in Pakistan but their salaries are so small that they hardly earn a square meal. As a result they have to live from hand to mouth All these sufferings are because of inequality in society specially in the case of women-folk

پاکستان میں حال بھی یہی ہے 15 ملین خواتین گھریلو ملازمین کے طور پر کام کرتی ہیں۔ مگر ان کی تنخواہیں ترین کام ہیں کہ وہ بمشکل دو وقت کی روٹی کماتی ہیں۔ نتیجتاً وہ بمشکل ہی کردار ادا کرتی ہیں۔ یہ تمام مشکلات معاشرے کی نا انصافی کی وجہ سے ہیں خاص طور پر خواتین کے معاملے میں۔

Women are also mal-treated in the cases of inheritance. They are not given their proper share in the property left by their parents. Islam has earmarked their due share in the inheritance This injustice is a crystal-clear sign of gender inequality in our country along with some other countries

عورتوں کے ساتھ وراثت کے معاملات میں برا سلوک کیا جاتا ہے۔ اُن کو والدین کی چھوڑی ہوئی جائیداد میں جائز حصہ نہیں دیا جاتا۔ اسلام نے اُن کے لیے وراثت میں مناسب حصہ متعین کر دیا ہے۔ یہ نا انصافی ہمارے ملک اور بعض ممالک میں صنفی امتیاز کی واضح نشانی ہے۔

Gender inequality, in any form, is detrimental to society. The pace of progress and development stops. The wronged ones feel frustration They fall a victim to inferiority complex. Their latent potentialities cease to function. They lead a depressed and dejected life They think that their very existence in the world is good for nothing and futile They act as they are dumb-driven cattle.

صنفاى ناانصافى كسى بهى صورت مى معاشرے كے ليے تباہ كن ہے۔ ترقى كى رفتار ك جاتى ہے۔ مظلوم مايوسى محسوس كرتے هى۔ وه احساس مايوسى كا شكار هو جاتے هى۔ ان كى پوشيده صلاحيتىں كام كرنا چهوڑ ديتى هى۔ وه مايوسى اور سنجيدگى كے ساتھ زندگى گزارتے هى۔ وه سمجھتے هى ك دنيا مى ان كا وجود بے كار اور فضول ہے وه بے زبان جانوروں كى طرح كام كرتے هى۔

Under these circumstances a nation cannot make progress. It cannot keep its pace with the ever advancing nations of the globe. This state of affairs is quite grave and worthy of consideration as it adversely affects our society.

ان حالات مى قوم ترقى نھىں كر سكتى۔ يہ دنيا كى ترقى يافتہ اقوام كے ساتھ زندگى كى دوڑ مى برابرى نھىں كر سكتے۔ اس قسم كى صورت حال بہت سنگين اور قابل توجہ ہے كيونكہ يہ ہمارے معاشرے كو برى طرح متاثر كرتى ہے۔

New Vocabulary

Words	Meanings
Adversely	Unfavorable, contrary, oppositely
Affairs	Matters

Alarming	Frightening, terrifying, terrible
Anaemic	Blood shortage
Appropriate	Suitable, proper, due
Attitude	Behaviour, treatment
Cease	Vanish, finish, end
Comprise	Composed of, consist of
Conservative	Backward, old, thinking about the past
Deficiency	Shortage, scarce, less
Dejected	Sad or gloomy
Deprive	Take away from, prevent from using
Detrimental	Harmful, damaging; dangerous
Discriminate	Make a difference between
Dominating	Having an upper hand, having control or influence over others.
Facilities	Comforts
Fragile	Easily injured, broken or damaged, destroyed
From hand to mouth	with great difficulty hardly
Frustration	Prevent from doing, disappointment
Grave and gloomy	Serious and sad

illiterate	Uneducated, ignorant
Inferiority complex	State of mind in which a person who has a morbid feeling of being, try to win recognition by boasting.
Irony of fate	bad luck, ill-luck, ill-fate

Mortality	State of being mortal
Lack	Shortage, deficiency, scarce
Latent	Hidden
Maternity	Being a mother
Miserable	Full of trouble, very unhappy, wretched
Neglected	Ignored, to give no attention
Pace	Speed, step.
Paralyze	Loss of feeling or power to move or do something
Portion	Part, piece, share
Potentiality	Energy waiting to be released, talent
Remote	For away in space or time.
Rural areas	Areas outside the city, count areas
Salary	Wages, payment
Seeking	Looking for, searching for
Square meal	Two times meal, food.

Victimized	Ill-treated, wronged
Vulnerability	Not protected against attack, liable to be damaged

STUDY QUESTIONS

Recalling

1) What is the ratio between male and female population in the world?

Ans.: The ratio between male and female population in the world is that the world's population comprises of more than 50% women. So, female population forms the major portion of the world's population as compared to male population.

(OR)

The population of the world comprises of more than 50% women. In this way the ratio of female is above male.

2) Do women in the poor and developing countries enjoy equal rights?

Ans: No, women in the poor and developing countries do not enjoy equal rights. They rather lead a miserable life in these countries. For example, in the Education Sector in Pakistan, out of 70% of the total population living in rural areas, there are only primary schools for girls in comparison to the high and higher secondary schools for boys. Again, as most of the population in villages is illiterate and conservative, they do not send their daughters to school. That is why the ratio between the male and female education is quite alarming. Similarly, in Health Sector, most of the women lose their lives during child-birth due to the unavailability of hospitals and doctors in the remote areas. According to medical experts, about 60% women in Pakistan have the

deficiency of Vitamin D due to malnutrition. Another big inequality done to women in Pakistan is in the cases of inheritance. They are not given their proper share in the property left by their parents. Finally, women workers in industries, factories and mills are given less wages as compared to the wages given to male workers.

(OR)

Though women consist of major portion of the population, yet they have not been given equal rights. Women in the poor and developing countries do not enjoy equal rights. They lead a miserable life.

3) Why are women deprived of their due rights in our society?

Ans: Women are deprived of their due rights in our society because there is gender inequality in our society. Due to the discriminatory attitude of the male members of the society, they are ignored in every walk of life. They are considered as "Fragile human beings" both physically and emotionally in our society

(OR)

Women are deprived of their due right in *our society because they are considered as "Fragile human beings" both physically and emotionally. Because of this they are kept deprived of enough education, health, facilities and nutrition.

4) Who consider women as 'fragile human beings'?

Ans: Men of our society consider women as "Fragile human beings"

(OR)

Male members of our society consider women as "fragile human beings"

5) What is the status of women in Islam?

Ans: The status of women in Islam is high and respectable. Islam has given equal human laws and rules for men and women. For example, in relation to education, Islam teaches us that "Seeking of knowledge is the duty of every Muslim (i.e. man or woman)" Similarly, in relation to inheritance, Islam has specified their due share in the property left by their parents.

(OR)

Islam provides equal rights to women. In Islam there is no discrimination on the basis of gender. Islam teaches its followers that "Seeking of knowledge is the duty of every Muslim" It is unfortunate that this golden saying has been totally neglected in the case of women.

6) Describe the hurdles and hardships faced by women in Pakistan?

Ans: In Pakistan, women face many hardships. The overall general conditions are not satisfactory, but women suffer, even more than male members of the society: For example, in the Education Sector in Pakistan, out of 70% of the total population living in rural areas, there are only primary schools for girls in comparison to the high and higher secondary schools for boys. Again, as most of the population in villages is illiterate and conservative, they do not send their daughters to school.

That is why the ratio between the male and female education is quite alarming. Similarly, in Health Sector, most of the women lose their lives during child birth due to the non-availability of hospitals and doctors in the remote areas. According to medical experts, about 60% women in Pakistan have the deficiency of Vitamin D due to malnutrition. Another big inequality done to women in Pakistan is in the cases of inheritance. They are not given their proper

share in the property left-by their parents. Finally, women workers in industries, factories and mills are given less wages as compared to the wages given to male workers.

(OR)

In Pakistan women faced many hurdles and hardships in the race of life. They are not provided the opportunity to get education. In most of the rural area's parents do not send their daughters to schools. Mal-nutrition is another problem of women They are not provided proper food and health facilities. Women are given less job opportunities. Women workers in industries are given less wages. They are victimized on the basis of gender. Above all, women are also mal-treated in the cases of inheritance.

7) Why do parents in most of the rural areas not send their daughters to schools?

Ans: Parents in most of the rural areas do not send their daughters to school because most of them are illiterate and conservative.

(OR)

As most of the population of the rural areas is illiterate and conservative, so the parents do not send their daughters to school.

8) What has been said about the importance of education for a woman?

Ans: It is said about the importance of education for a woman that if we educate a man, we educate an individual, but if we educate a woman, we educate a family.

(OR)

Education is more important for a woman. It is said "If you educate a man, you educate an individual. But if you educate a woman, you educate a family. An educated mother can play a better role in the brought up of her children.

9) What are the causes of high mortality rate of women during child-birth?

Ans: The causes of high mortality rate of women during childbirth in Pakistan are: firstly, there is the non-availability of hospitals and doctors in the remote areas; secondly, there is non-availability of qualified health-care staff, i.e. mid-wives and lady health visitors; and thirdly, the male members of the family do not want to take their women to the male doctors. As a result, the poor ailing women die a very miserable death due to the sheer negligence of the male members.

(OR)

As hospitals and doctors are not available in remote areas so most of the women lose their lives during child birth. Mortality rate of mothers during child birth is more than 30/1000 in Pakistan which is a matter of great concern.

10) Why do the male members of a family not want to take their women to the male doctors?

Ans: The male members of a family in rural areas in Pakistan do not want to take their women to the male doctors because of the non-availability of the qualified female health staff i.e. mid-wives and Lady Health Visitors (LHV's), and because of the reason that they are illiterate and conservative and give more importance to their self-styled honour than life.

(OR)

Due to non-availability of qualified health care staff i.e. mid-wives and lady health visitors the male members of the family do not want to take their women

to the male doctors. They consider it against their customs and culture. The poor ailing women die by inches due to the sheer negligence of the male members.

11) Can ailing and weak women contribute much to the progress and prosperity of a country?

Ans: No, ailing and weak women cannot contribute much to the progress and prosperity of a country because they produce sick and unnourished next generation which rather proves detrimental to the economy of the country

(OR)

No, an ailing and weak woman cannot contribute to the progress and prosperity of a country. Their off-springs will be thin, weak and unhealthy. Weak and unhealthy people cannot contribute much to the progress and prosperity of a country.

Interpreting

12) What are the adverse effects on society when women are mal-treated?

Ans: When women are maltreated, there are serious, adverse effects on the society they live in: firstly, women fall a victim to inferiority complex, their latent potentialities stop to function, they lead a depressed and dejected life, they think that their very existence is meaningless, and they act as if they are dumb-driven cattle; secondly, weak and ailing women produce sick and unnourished next generation which proves detrimental to the economy of the country. Under these circumstances, a nation cannot make progress.

(OR)

When women are maltreated, it has adverse effects on society. It hinders the progress and prosperity of a country. No country can progress without the proper share of women.

13) Do women deserve to be given due share in inheritance?

Ans: Yes, women deserve due share in inheritance as has already been duly acknowledged by Islam. In my view, women's complete reliance on men results in their dependence and deprivation. If they get their due share in inheritance and become self-reliant, they command equal respect and status in society and this helps them in their self-assurance and realization of their full potential for the progress of the nation they belong to.

(OR)

Yes, women deserve to be given due share in inheritance. They should be given proper share in the property left by their parents. Islam has earmarked their due share in the inheritance.

Extending

14) There are religious as well as national laws about the rights of women. How can these laws be enforced?

Ans: There are religious as well as national laws about the rights of women, but the main problem lies in their implementation. I think that these laws can be enforced by taking some effective measures: firstly, by educating the masses about the rights of women by educational curricula, media, and religious instructions in mosque and religious Madrassas secondly, by appointing a special task force for the rights of women; thirdly, by house-to-house survey of the problems of women by the personnel of law-enforcing agencies and

departments and addressing them on urgent basis, and lastly, by providing education to women about their due rights and duties and the ways to tackle in a lawful manner the injustices done to them by men around.

(OR)

These laws can be enforced only when the men are educated and have the knowledge of-Islam. These cannot be enforced in poor and illiterate society.

Oral Activity

- The students will be divided into two groups.
- The first group will be asked to express its views how women are ill-treated in our society.
- The second group will express its views on the consequences about gender inequality.

Writing

- **Write an essay on the status of women in Islam.**

Ans: STATUS OF WOMAN IN ISLAM

Women enjoy the right status in Islam. After the advent of Islam people began to value the women. The women also enjoy more rights at present as compared to past. Islam recognizes the position of woman to be the same as that of men. It claims that both come from the same essence. That is why they have same status.

Women are a great gift of God. In a woman, we find three different personalities a mother, a wife and a daughter. The position of the mother is very exalted in Islamic tradition. Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) is categorical, "the

best among you is the one who is best toward his family". With regards to woman as a daughter, the Islamic attitude can be realized from the reproaches which the Holy Quran makes against the pagan pre-Islamic behavior at the birth of daughters. Islam did not allow the Arabs to bury their young daughters. They are also the creature of God.

The Holy Quran is a complete code of life. The mutual relation of husband and wife is describing in the Holy Quran as that of a single soul in two bodies. Islam describes the house as a unit in the greater organization of a nation as a whole. It speaks of husband as being "an administrator and supervisor over the people of the house" and the wife is described as "administrator of the house of her husband and children" The home is thus described as a kingdom, where authority is exercised by both the husband and the wife. Both can rule staying within their own limits. No one can snatch the right to either.

Islam is religion according to nature. Islam envisages a natural division of work between men and women. While man is best suited to fight and make his way through the thick and thin of life on account of his stronger physique and other attributes, woman is entrusted with the onerous task of bringing the quality of love and compassion in her. This functional division of work does not mean that woman has entirely been excluded from other kinds of activities if she has the opportunity. In this way, Islam has clearly defined and determined the status of woman in society. According to the teachings of Islam men and women enjoy equal right in our society but their social responsibilities and duties are different. Woman is the queen of her house. Her main and sacred duties are to look after the domestic affairs, to bring up children with care, to educate the children and to act according to the wishes of her husband.

However, Islam does not prevent the woman from serving in various social institutions. They may work as teachers, doctors, nurses etc. they may also part in politics. They can do anything which they consider better for them.

Despite it, Islam has laid greater stress on the domestic duties of a woman. Our salvation lies in following the teachings of Islam. Therefore, we must abstain from copying the western culture blindly and must stick to our own Islamic culture as firmly as possible. Ours is the best religion all over the world. As a result, it has great charms for non-Muslim as well. The western women are envious of the status of Muslim women.

Language Study

Prepositional Phrases

A prepositional phrase is a phrase that consists of a preposition followed by, for example, a noun, a pronoun, a noun phrase or an adverb.

- Who's that talking to George?
- We saw her in town the other day.
- They managed it between them.
- Shona was playing with her new puppy.
- Children have to learn to eat with a knife and fork,
- In 1965, I was still at school.
- To whom should I address my remarks?
- Since when have you been in charge here?
- What's in there?
- A prepositional phrase may sometimes be split into two parts;
- Who did you give it to?

- What can I cut it with?
- What are we standing here for?

The head of a prepositional phrase is the preposition, it begins with.

- In silence
- On the bed
- From a distance
- With difficulty
- To my room
- The rest of the prepositional phrase is called the object or complement of the preposition.

- in silence
- on the bed
- from a distance
- with difficulty
- to my room
- Prepositional phrases may themselves be the complements of prepositions in large prepositional phrases;

- There was a lot of noise coming from behind the door.
- Some very odd-looking creatures crawled out from under the stones. And there are other word-groups that may be the complements of prepositions:

- In saying that, I don't wish to sound rude.
- From what John said, I don't think he was very pleased.
- A prepositional phrase may be modified (that is, emphasized or limited in some way) by an adverb.

- The dog was lying right beside the gate.
- It is quite beyond belief that you could be so stupid.
- The dungeons are directly beneath us.
- I'm not doing this simply for my benefit.

• Prepositional phrases sometimes come in pairs, especially in certain idioms:

- The dog was wagging its tail from side to side.
- I see him from time to time.
- We're going to clean this house from top to bottom.
- Jenny was grinning from ear to ear.

Functions of Prepositional Phrases

• Two of the main functions of prepositional phrases in sentences are an adverbial (adjuncts, disjuncts and conjuncts) and as complements (both subject-complements and object-complements).

1) Prepositional phrases as adjuncts

- The cat was on the table.
- In Scotland it sometimes snows in summer.
- I paint with great enthusiasm but with little skill.
- I even baked a cake for her.

2) Prepositional phrases as adjuncts (making a comment on the rest of the sentence;

- To my surprise, there was no-one there.
- To Mrs Brown's relief, the storm hadn't damaged her fruit plants.
- In all fairness, I don't think we can blame her for what happened

3) Prepositional phrases as Conjuncts (linking sentences:

- You're not going diving. For a start, you can't swim.

4) Prepositional phrases as subject-complements:

- Your work is of great value.

- His opinion is of little interest to me.

5) Prepositional phrases as object-complements:

- We considered the information of little importance.
- He found the work boring and beneath his dignity.
- A Prepositional phrase may modify (that is to say, describe or identify) preceding noun in much the same way as an adjective does:

- Who is that man with red hair? (=that red -haired man)
- He is a man of honour. (= an honorable man)
- They greeted us with screams of delight. (= delighted screams)
- The train at platform 6 is the 10.35 to London Euston.
- The light at the front door suddenly went out.
- Who wrote 'The Man in the Iron Mask'?
- A Prepositional phrase may equally modify the following nouns:.
- He made a few off-the-cuff remarks and sat down again. (= a few unprepared remarks, thought up at the time of speaking)
- The offences are subject to on-the-spot fines, (immediate fines)
- I don't like his in-your-face style of speaking. (= his rather aggressive style of speaking)
- We need an in-depth survey of the state of the roads.
- A Prepositional phrase may also modify an adjective or the word not or -n't (that is, it may emphasize them or weaken their force):
- Your behaviour was foolish in the extreme. (= extremely foolish)
- We weren't worried in the slightest.
- I am not in the least surprised.

• A Prepositional phrase may function as the complement of an adjective, a verb, a noun or an adverb. The complement of an adjective, verb, noun or adverb is a group of words that follows it and provides further information relating to it:

- My parents are very keen on opera.
- She is very fond of her grandchildren.
- There's no need to be afraid of dogs.
- The dog was very possessive about its puppies.
- My daughter is very good with horses.
- I've decided on the black dress.
- Tom insisted on a vote.
- I won't comment on that.
- At this very moment there are people who are dying of hunger.
- There's no point in our being here.
- What is the purpose of this visit?
- Could we have a jug of water, please?
- I think I got an unfair share of the blame.
- She shows a remarkable aptitude for mathematics.
- She quickly moved away from the wall.

**How to Distinguish between similar
Prepositional Phrases**

- Prepositional phrases that function as adverbials can sometimes look very similar to Prepositional phrases that function as complements of adjectives, verbs, etc.

Notice the differences between the following pairs of sentences:

- Mary was sick on the bus. (adverbial - says where she was sick)
- Mary was sick of waiting. (complement - says what she was sick of)
- She decided on the way home. (adverbial says when she decided)
- She decided on the black dress. (complement - says what she chose)
- She shows great skill in tapestry. (complement - says what she is skilful at)
- Notice that adverbials can usually move to the beginning of their sentences:

- On the bus, Mary was sick.
- On the way home, she decided.
- For such a young girl, she shows great skill..

Complements, however, cannot normally do this - they must follow the words that they are complements of.

- Another difference between adverbials and complements is that prepositional phrases functioning adverbials can have any or a wide range of prepositions as their head:

- Mary was sick on the bus. • in the car.
- at the bus-stop • over the floor
- beside the telephone

With complements, however, the choice of preposition is much more restricted, Mary was sick of waiting (BUT NOT sick at' waiting, sick in waiting, sick on waiting) In fact, the prepositions in complements are determined by the words that the

complements are attached to. Nouns, verbs, and adjectives, in particular, usually have one, sometimes more than one preposition that they must be followed by:

keen on, good at, tired of, angry with, annoyed at

think about, laugh at, sneer at,

belief in, fear of, aptitude for, desire for, love of

and so on.

- The choice of customary preposition may depend on the sense of the word or on what follows the prepositions:

- She is good at maths.
- She is good with children.

- Fruit is good for you.
- He was angry at the delay.

- He was angry with you because you were late.

- Prepositional phrases that modify (that is, describe or identify) nouns are often hard to distinguish from ones that are complements of nouns (that is, that give more information about what the nouns relate to).

Notice the differences between these pairs of sentences:

- The bag on the table is mine, (modification - identifies which bag)

- She was holding a bag of potatoes, (complement- says what was in the bag)

- The answer in the book is wrong, (modification identifies where the answer is)

- The answer to your problem lies in yourself, (complement - gives information about what the answer relates to)

- The problems in the office can easily be sorted out, (modification — say where the problems are)

- The problem with John is that he's too shy. (complement - gives information about who the problem relates to)
- Prepositional phrases may stand next to each other in a sentence but with different function.
- Her grandmother was sitting in an armchair with her cat.
- Her grandmother was sitting in an armchair with old, frayed cushions.
- In the first sentence, both in an armchair and with her cat are adverbials, describing where and how the grandmother was sitting.
- Her grandmother was sitting in an armchair.
- Her grandmother was sitting with her cat.
- In the second sentence, however, the phrase with old, frayed cushions is not an adverbial but is modifying (describing) the chair. There is, therefore, only one adverbial in the sentence: in an armchair with old, frayed cushions. Similarly, in the sentence
- Who lives in that house on the hill?

the phrase on the hill is modifying (identifying) the house, so again the structure of the sentence is subject + verb + adverbial: Who/lives/in that house on the hill?

Of course, there may be more than two Prepositional phrases together in a sentence. Here is one with three:

Her grandmother was sitting in an armchair with her cat beside her.

In this sentence, beside her is an adverbial, saying where the cat was.

In the next sentence, there are four Prepositional phrases together:

Her grandmother was sitting in an armchair with a cup of tea in her hand. Here the phrases in an armchair, with a cup of tea and in her hand are adverbials, and, in addition, of tea is the complement of 'cup'.

EXERCISE (1)

Pick out the prepositional phrases in the following sentences. Underline the head and circle the complement of each Prepositional phrase.

- 1) In the corner, on a blanket, lay a huge black cat.

Ans: Prepositional phrase: In the corner, on a blanket

Head of Prepositional phrase: In, on

Complement of Prepositional phrase: the corner, a blanket

- 2) The match was cancelled because of the weather,

Ans: Prepositional phrase: because of the weather

Head of Prepositional phrase: because of

Complement of Prepositional phrase: the weather

- 3) In Britain such a thing would never have happened.

Ans: Prepositional phrase: In Britain

Head of Prepositional phrase: In

Complement of Prepositional phrase: Britain

- 4) Where are you going to?

Ans: Prepositional phrase: Where, to

Head of Prepositional phrase: going to

Complement of Prepositional phrase: going

- 5) I waited anxiously for her reply.

Ans: Prepositional phrase: For her reply

Head of Prepositional phrase: For

Complement of Prepositional phrase: her Reply

6) Amongst other things, Km a writer.

Ans: Prepositional phrase: Amongst other things

Head of Prepositional phrase: Amongst

Complement of Prepositional phrase: Other things

7) On behalf of my family, I would like to thank you all for your good wishes

Ans: Prepositional phrase: On behalf of my family, for your good wishes

Head of Prepositional phrase: On, For

Complement of Prepositional phrase: Behalf of my family, your good wishes

8) We got the car started without much trouble.

Ans: Prepositional phrase: Without much trouble

Head of Prepositional phrase: Without

Complement of Prepositional phrase: Much trouble

9) Apart from the kitchen it's a lovely flat.

Ans: Prepositional phrase: Apart from the kitchen

Head of Prepositional phrase: Apart from

Complement of Prepositional phrase: The kitchen

10) With increasing alarm, she looked to see if the man was still there.

Ans: Prepositional phrase: With increasing alarm

Head of Prepositional phrase: With

Complement of Prepositional phrase: Increasing alarm

11) She pulled out a box from under the bed.

Ans: Prepositional phrase: From under the bed

Head of Prepositional phrase: from

Complement of Prepositional phrase: Under the bed

12) He pressed a coin into the man's hand.

Ans: Prepositional phrase: Into the man's hand

Head of Prepositional phrase: into

Complement of Prepositional phrase: The man's hand

EXERCISE (2)

Pick out the Prepositional phrases in the following sentences and say what their function is in the sentence (i.e. is the phrase an adjunct, a disjunct or a conjunct, or is it modifying something?)

1) The meal was eaten in silence.

Ans: in silence, (Adjunct)

2) To their horror, the vase slipped from his grasp and fell to the floor.

Ans: To their horror, (Disjunct)

3) She studied the picture for a few minutes with great interest.

Ans: with great interest, (Adjunct)

4) The man in front of me seemed to have lost his wallet.

Ans: in front of me, (Adjunct)

5) The dress is meant to be worn off the shoulder.

Ans: to be worn, (Adjunct)

6) She was wearing an off-the-shoulder dress.

Ans: off-the-shoulder dress, (Modifying Object)

7) The smiths live in the house on the corner of the street.

Ans: in the house on the corner of the street, (Adjunct)

8) I don't mind in the least.

Ans: in the least, (Disjunct)

9) The clothes were lying in a pile on the floor.

Ans: in a pile on the floor, (Adjunct)

10) The clothes in that pile on the floor are mine.

Ans: in that pile on the floor, (Modifying Subject)

11) In my opinion, we're lost.

Ans: In my opinion, (Disjunct)

12) If you pull and I push at the same time, we should manage to move the car.

Ans: at the same time, (Modifying)

13) In that case, I'll let you decide what to do.

Ans: In that case, (Disjunct)

14) There's a bird with a broken wing in the garden

Ans: with a broken wing, (Modifying Subject)

EXERCISE (3)

Say whether the Prepositional phrases in the following sentences are functioning as adjuncts, functioning as complements or modifying nouns.

1) He raised the cup to his lips and drank deeply.

Ans: Complement; to his lips

2) This is an exception to the general rule.

Ans: Complement; to the general rule

3) I saw a strange man on the bus.

Ans: Adjunct; on the bus

4) The man on the bus was wearing a tattered old coat.

Ans: Modifying Noun; on the bus

5) Molly was rather surprised at Tom's behaviour.

Ans: Complement; at Tom's behaviour

6) The boat was heading away at full speed.

Ans: Adjunct; at full speed

7) Mrs. Park wasn't pleased at the delay.

Ans: Adjunct; at the delay

8) There's no doubt about it. That's the man I saw.

Ans: Complement; about it

9) Gradually the noise behind them died away.

Ans: Adjunct; behind them died

10) The house has rather suffered from neglect recently.

Ans: Complement; suffered from neglect

11) Put the toys in that box.

Ans: Adjunct; in that box

12) The little girl was glowing with pride.

Ans: Complement; with pride