



The Prophet and the Crooked Rib



Treat Women Kindly!



In a world that claims to promote freedom and equality, Western women face a harsh reality of exploitation and violence, where attractive slogans are mixed with the painful truth of temporary relationships and psychological and social pressures. Meanwhile, Islam stands firm with its teachings that honor women and grant them a unique status, preserving their rights as mothers, wives, and daughters.

In this text

we explore how freedom has turned into a burden, and how Islam has made women a protected jewel in a world that threatens their values.



But to understand this, we must go back a little in history...

In the era of the ancient Greeks, women were despised and humiliated. They even described them as an impurity from the work of Satan. The views of their philosophers whom they considered pioneers of rational thought regarding women reflected the extent of their degradation and contempt toward them.

The Greek philosopher Socrates said:

“The existence of women is the greatest origin and source of crisis in the world. The woman resembles a poisonous tree; its appearance is beautiful, but when birds eat from it, they die immediately.”



Aristotle said:

“Woman is an incomplete man, and nature has left her at the lowest level of the ladder of creation.”

He also said:

“A woman is to man as the slave is to the master, the worker is to the scholar, and the barbarian is to the Greek; and the man is higher in status than the woman.”

He did not believe that women possessed the intellectual ability to make their own decisions.



In addition, during the eleventh century, courts established laws allowing a husband to lend his wife to another man for a period determined by the borrower. It was also claimed that rulers had the right to take advantage of a peasant woman for up to twenty-four hours from the date of the agreement with the peasant.

In England, during the period between the fifth and eleventh centuries AD, it was a practice among some men to hold auctions.

These auctions involved competition to buy goods, but the item being sold was not an ordinary commodity; the seller was the husband, and the “commodity” was his wife. This phenomenon was known as “wife selling”, where selling a wife was sometimes considered cheaper than the cost of divorce, and was also used to settle some debts.



A head cage made of iron was also designed, known as the Scold's Bridle. It was like a mask placed on a woman's head, with a piece extending under her tongue so that she could not speak or talk throughout her punishment.

This was used as a punishment simply because she talked too much or because she made any human mistake.

Perhaps, if you were a woman living in that time, you could have been punished with that humiliating cage simply because you decided to speak or express your opinion about something. Or you might have found yourself being sold by your husband at an auction in front of dozens of men, or even "sold" to a ruler for a shameful desire.

A society that held such a degrading view could not treat women with justice and fairness or respect them as they deserved. It could not recognize their value or view them with honor.



“False Freedom and a Bitter Reality:

The Journey of Western Women”

After all those miserable conditions and humiliating circumstances, voices began calling for granting women their basic rights, then demanding equality with men, and later some movements developed into rejecting everything related to men.

According to historians, this goes back to the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century. Gradually, women gained many rights over the years, from the right to work to the right to abortion, as claimed by some advocates.

However, all these powerful slogans and attractive images do not erase the reality of the serious problems many women face today.

Today, many Western women have lost their happiness, the spirit of motherhood within them has faded, their family lives have been damaged, their families have become scattered, and many have lost their will and identity. They have become broken and vulnerable. Many carry the burden of men's injustice along with life's difficulties, raising children born outside marriage and bearing responsibility alone without the father's support. They suffer confusion and regret when their child asks about their father, and they continue searching for security and purpose in life without finding it.



“Children Without Shelter

The Result of Family Breakdown”

After all those miserable conditions and humiliating Children have begun leaving the family home, which is supposed to be a place of safety for them, but often it is no longer so. The father is busy with his work, and the caring mother has disappeared in a materialistic society, where she has become exhausted and occupied with employment.

With the loss of herself, she has also lost her role as a devoted wife and a mother who raises generations. As a result, the balanced and healthy family has been lost.

According to the annual homelessness assessment report issued by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, reports from the National Runaway Safeline indicate that between 1.6 million and 2.8 million young people run away every year.

As a result, they become homeless and vulnerable to drug addiction, psychological illnesses, and even sexual exploitation.



Attractive Clothing and Low Wages:

The Pressures of Work on the Modern Woman

As a result, young women began leaving their homes in search of work that would make them independent. However, this also made them more vulnerable to exploitation, whether by employers or managers. They may be exploited in various ways through low wages, long working hours, and even sexual exploitation.

According to a report published by BBC News, one out of every four women experiences sexual relationships in the workplace.

Even if she is not sexually exploited, she is still certainly exposed to harassment. The website RFI discussed a study conducted by the French government stating that 100% of women experienced sexual harassment or worse on public transportation, simply while traveling to work.



Furthermore, one out of every four American women reported experiencing harassment in the workplace, according to a report published by ABC News.

The French president himself was even compelled to address this issue in a famous post on the platform X, where he said: There are also cases where women harass men and make a living through threatening to file court cases in order to blackmail men.

This harassment is not limited to a specific place; it occurs even in prestigious governmental institutions, international organizations, and parliaments. A CNN report discussed the mistreatment of women in European parliaments, and similar issues occur in educational institutions and everywhere else.



Beauty for Sale:

When the Body Becomes a Means of Survival

As a result, she may find herself in a workplace where she is forced to reveal parts of herself and wear short or provocative clothing in order to appear more “attractive” to customers and clients.

According to a survey conducted by The Week magazine, nine out of ten female workers experience pressure to wear “more attractive” clothing from their supervisors.

With the difficulties of finding employment, limited opportunities, and financial pressures, some women may find doors open to selling their dignity in exchange for money.

There are many customers who seek such relationships; older men may spend large amounts of money for their pleasure and then easily leave these women and move on to others.

Some women may also accompany elderly men in order to obtain financial support for their university expenses.



In addition, she remains under constant psychological pressure, attempting to satisfy social standards that judge, accept, or reject her according to her external appearance and physical beauty. This may push her to undergo cosmetic surgeries in order to preserve her appearance.

Thus, she lives under continuous fear and constant pressure, afraid of losing the outward features that allow her to compete in a society that focuses on external appearance before inner character and intellectual value.

She may spend thousands on this pursuit, while the owners of capitalist companies benefit from it — companies that often created unrealistic beauty standards in the first place, keeping her constantly chasing after them.



Children in Boxes

Mothers in Crisis: The Cycle of Broken Love

is When a woman wants to fulfill her emotional desires and follow her natural inclination toward romantic relationships, she may find herself forced into repeated relationships based largely on her physical appearance and the features that attract a man's attention.

The man may simply pass from one relationship to another, changing women as he changes his clothes.

In every relationship she enters, she may be expected to share half of the expenses, including housing, food, and even gifts.

These relationships often end because of betrayal, violence, or outside relationships.

Many women are subjected to physical abuse and mistreatment by their partners, in addition to financial and physical exploitation.

In such situations, some may turn to alcohol or psychological medications to escape their pain, and some may eventually fall into drug use.

When they fail to find happiness, they may seek refuge in bars and dancing to loud music, where they become exposed like objects in front of everyone, attempting unsuccessfully to release their frustration and fill their spiritual emptiness.



These relationships may lead to pregnancy, leaving the woman facing several choices:

The first option:

To abort the child using harsh methods, through procedures involving instruments that cut the fetus into pieces and then dispose of it. Some of these procedures take place after the sixth week, meaning after the stage when, according to Islamic belief, the soul is breathed into the fetus; yet many do not consider this to be the killing of a soul.

A video can be watched to understand how these procedures are carried out, according to the testimony of a doctor.

The second option:

To keep the child and take full responsibility for caring for him or her. She then enters the job market to work, as there is no husband to support her, and sometimes not even the father accepts responsibility. The child may therefore grow up without a father or mother caring for him, and the cycle begins again.

Some mothers are unable to keep the child after birth and decide to abandon him in special boxes designed for abandoned babies, placed in streets as an alternative to throwing them in the garbage — as if this were a solution to the problem.

The child is then taken to orphan care institutions, while both parents may still be alive and may even be only a few meters away from him.



Escaping into Loneliness in Old Age

When women in the West pass what society considers their “prime years,” some turn to raising animals or practicing hobbies in order to avoid facing the bitter reality.

Their greatest goal becomes collecting money to cover the costs of nursing homes where they will spend the rest of their lives, whether they have children or not.

This family breakdown and the collapse of family bonds eventually leave women alone, facing the hardships of life.

Islamic Law: Honoring Women and Preserving Their Dignity

In contrast to this difficult life, Islam came to honor women and protect their rights.

Islam made woman a source of tranquility for man, granting her rights and responsibilities that correspond to her nature and innate disposition.

Allah, the Most High, says:

[And due to them is similar to what is expected of them,
according to what is equitable]

[Al-Baqarah: 228]

Allah commanded men to treat women with kindness and fulfill their rights completely, away from injustice or neglect.



Allah says:

[And live with them in kindness]

[An-Nisa: 19]

He also obligated the man to provide for her according to his financial ability, without extravagance or restriction.

Allah says:

[And provide for them — the wealthy according to his means
and the poor according to his means]

[Al-Baqarah: 236]

The Status of the Mother in Islam:

First, Second, and Third

The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ was an example to be followed in the way women should be treated.

He frequently advised people to treat women well, and he always showed them respect and care.

In the noble hadith, when he was asked:

“Who among people is most deserving of my good companionship?”

He said:

“Your mother.”

The person asked again, and he said:

“Your mother.”

He asked again, and he said:

“Your mother.”

Then he said:

“Then your father.”



Kindness Even Toward a Non-Muslim Mother

The Prophet ﷺ placed kindness toward parents, especially the mother, among the greatest virtues, even if the mother is not Muslim. Asma' bint Abi Bakr (may Allah be pleased with her) came to the Prophet ﷺ seeking advice regarding her polytheist mother.

The Prophet ﷺ instructed her to maintain ties with her mother and treat her kindly, demonstrating righteousness and good companionship even with those who differ in faith.

The Gift of Daughters: A Path to Paradise

In Islam, daughters are considered a great blessing. The Prophet ﷺ promised that whoever raises his daughters with care and patience, they will be a reason for his entry into Paradise. He said:

“Whoever has three daughters, is patient with them, feeds them, and gives them drink from his own wealth, they will be a shield for him from the Fire on the Day of Resurrection.”

The Prophet ﷺ emphasized this meaning again when he said:

“Whoever supports two or three daughters, or two or three sisters, until they marry or until he dies while caring for them, I and he will be in Paradise like these two.”

And he pointed with his index and middle fingers.



The Wife in Islam:

A Companion on the Journey

At a time when women may be neglected in some cultures, Islam elevated the status of women as wives and made a man's goodness measured by the way he treats his family.

The Prophet ﷺ said:

“The best of you are those who are best to their families, and I am the best of you to my family.”

The Prophet ﷺ was an example of a man who treated his wives with kindness, gentleness, and affection, appreciating their feelings and needs.

The Prophet's Gentleness ﷺ With His Wives:

Playfulness and Affection

During one journey, the Prophet ﷺ asked Aisha (may Allah be pleased with her) to race with him.

She won the first time. After some time, they raced again, and he won. Then he joked with her with a smile full of love and affection, saying:

“This one is for that one.”

This situation reflected the Prophet's deep love and his desire to bring happiness and joy into her life, emphasizing the importance of a marital relationship based on respect and gentle affection.



The Prophet's Listening and Loyalty:

A Love That Knows No Separation

In the hadith of Umm Zar', Aisha (may Allah be pleased with her) narrated to the Prophet ﷺ the story of a woman who praised her husband Abu Zar' for his generosity and love, and how he provided her with care and comfort, but eventually divorced her.

The Prophet ﷺ listened attentively, then said to Aisha:

"I am to you like Abu Zar' was to Umm Zar', except that Abu Zar' divorced her, while I will not divorce you."

These words carry the depth of the Prophet's love and his concern for reassuring his wives, emphasizing his loyalty and compassion.

Women's Jealousy and the Prophet's

Gentleness Toward Them

In a moment of jealousy, one of the Prophet's wives ﷺ broke a dish of food.

He did not become angry or blame her. Instead, he calmly gathered the food and said with a smile:

"Your mother felt jealous."

Through this wise and merciful response, the Prophet ﷺ demonstrated patience and understanding of women's natural feelings of jealousy, handling the situation with kindness that reflected his great character and wisdom.



The Prophet Advises About

the Mother Even During Jihad

A young man came to the Prophet ﷺ seeking permission to participate in jihad, which is among the greatest deeds in Islam. The young man was eager to join battles seeking reward and a high status with Allah.

The Prophet ﷺ asked him a wise question:

“Do you have a mother?”

The young man replied: “Yes.” The Prophet ﷺ said:

“Then stay with her, for Paradise is beneath her feet.”

Through this موقف, the Prophet ﷺ highlighted the greatness of honoring one’s mother and the virtue of serving her when she needs it, showing the young man that caring for his mother may surpass the reward of jihad because of the mother’s عظمت and her need for someone to care for her.

The Woman in the Farewell Sermon:

The Prophet’s Final Advice

In the Farewell Sermon, the Prophet ﷺ advised people to treat women well, saying: “Treat women kindly.”

He emphasized the importance of mercy, justice in dealing with them, and preserving their rights.

He also said:

“A believing man should not hate a believing woman; if he dislikes one of her characteristics, he will be pleased with another.”

Through these recommendations, the Prophet ﷺ clarified the status of women in Islam and the necessity of treating them with kindness, confirming that good treatment is part of faith.



Final View:

Between Islam and Western Societies

While some women in certain Western cultures pursue a false “freedom” that leads them to isolation and misery, Islam has guaranteed their rights and made them worthy of treatment that preserves their dignity.

While some societies chase man-made laws that may exploit women’s weaknesses, Islam presents a unique model that honors women and considers their nature.

Attractive Clothing and Low Wages:

The Pressures of Work on the Modern Woman” (continued)

She may also find herself at her workplace forced to reveal parts of her body and wear short and provocative clothing in order to appear more “attractive” to customers and clients.

According to a survey conducted by The Week magazine, nine out of ten female workers experience pressure from their supervisors to wear “more attractive” clothing.



Beauty for Sale:

When the Body Becomes a Means of Survival

With the difficulties of finding employment, limited opportunities, and financial pressures, a woman may find doors wide open to sell her dignity in exchange for money, as there are many customers seeking this. Older men may spend large amounts of money for their pleasure, then easily leave these women and move on to others. She may also accompany elderly men in order to obtain money to cover her university expenses.

Despite all of this, she remains under constant psychological pressure, trying to satisfy social standards that classify, accept, or reject her according to her physical appearance and outward beauty. This may force her to resort to cosmetic surgeries in order to maintain her beauty.

As a result, she lives under continuous fear and constant threat, afraid of losing those physical features that allow her to compete in an environment that values her external appearance before her inner character and the value of her mind.

She may spend thousands for this purpose, while the owners of capitalist companies benefit from her companies that originally created unrealistic beauty standards, keeping her constantly chasing after them.



Children in Boxes... Mothers in Crisis: The Cycle of Broken Love

When a woman wants to fulfill her desires and follow her natural inclination toward romantic relationships, she may find herself forced into a series of relationships whose beginnings depend mainly on her physical appearance and the features that are most attractive in a man's eyes.

The man may simply be playing around and changing women as he changes his clothes. In every relationship she enters, she is often expected to share half of the expenses, including housing, food, and even gifts. These relationships frequently end because of betrayal, violence, or outside relationships.

Women are often subjected to physical abuse and mistreatment by their partners, in addition to financial and physical exploitation.

In such situations, she may turn to alcohol or psychological medications in an attempt to escape her pain, and she may eventually reach the point of drug use.

When she is unable to find happiness, she may resort to bars and dancing to loud music, where she is exposed like a servant in front of everyone, unsuccessfully trying to release her frustration and fill her spiritual emptiness.



These relationships may lead to pregnancy, leaving her with several options:

The first option:

To abort the child using cruel methods, by inserting tools such as scissors that cut the fetus into pieces and then disposing of it. Some of these procedures take place after the sixth week, meaning after the stage when, according to Islamic belief, the soul has been breathed into the fetus; yet this is not considered or counted as taking a life.

A video can be watched to understand how these procedures are carried out, according to the testimony of one of the doctors.

The second option:

To keep the child and take responsibility for caring for him or her. She then enters the job market to work, as there is no husband to support her and she may not even have support from her father. Some fathers consider themselves

“not obligated” to financially support their daughters, telling them they must “manage their own affairs.”

Thus, the child remains without a father or mother to care for him, and the cycle begins again.

Some mothers are unable to keep the child after birth, so they decide to abandon him in special boxes for abandoned babies placed in the streets, where children can be left instead of being thrown into garbage as if this were a solution to the problem.

The child is then taken and raised in orphan shelters, while both parents may still be alive and may even be only a few meters away from him.



False Freedom and Self-Destruction

Some women continue along this dark path, driven by the slogan of “freedom,” while realizing that it is a false freedom that leads them toward a miserable life that may end in suicide.

The spiritual emptiness and the absence of purpose make her a victim of the exploitation of her femininity from an early age, until she enters the jungle of life where her beauty is exploited.

And because returning to the family becomes difficult, she lives isolated and scattered after giving up her sense of security.

Escaping into Loneliness in Old Age

When women in the West pass what is considered their “expiration age,” they turn to raising animals or practicing hobbies in order to avoid facing the bitter truth.

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The Wife in Islam: A Companion on the Journey

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The Prophet ﷺ was an example of a man who treated his wives with kindness, gentleness, and compassion, and who appreciated their feelings and needs.



The Prophet's Gentleness ﷺ With His Wives: Playfulness and Affection

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He did not become angry or blame her. Instead, he calmly collected the food and said with a smile:

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Final View: Between Islam and Western Societies

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Through this situation, the Prophet ﷺ highlighted the greatness of honoring one's mother and the virtue of serving her when she is in need of care. He explained to the young man that honoring his mother and taking care of her can surpass the reward of jihad, due to the mother's great status and her need for someone to look after her.



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In the Farewell Sermon, the Prophet ﷺ advised people to treat women well, saying:

“Treat women kindly.”

He emphasized the importance of mercy and justice in dealing with them and preserving their rights.

He also said in another hadith:

“Let not a believing man hate a believing woman; if he dislikes one of her characteristics, he will be pleased with another.”

He called for balance and fairness in judging women.

Through these recommendations, the Prophet ﷺ clarified the status of women in Islam and the necessity of treating them with kindness, confirming that good treatment is part of faith.



Final View:

Between Islam and Western Societies

While women in some Western cultures pursue a false “freedom” that ends in isolation and misery, Islam has guaranteed their rights completely and made them deserving of treatment that preserves their dignity.

While women in some societies chase man-made laws that exploit their weaknesses, Islam presents a unique model that elevates the status of women and takes their nature into consideration.



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