

Family System in Islam and the West: A Comparative Study

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Abstract

The family organizes the foundation of society and its strength or weakness is based on the strength or weakness of its society. If the family system is weak then nothing can replace it. The signed article is an excuse for a comparative study of Islamic and Western conceptions of the family. In Islam, the concept of family, its organization and importance are discussed and compared with the diverse family framework of the West. The family is a part of the Islamic social system. The society that Islam seeks to establish is not a sensitive, sexist society. It establishes an ideological society with a high level of moral awareness. Islam has given the highest moral values to its caste and all the activities of life. This research article shows that despite its present greatness, the whole West is heading towards a catastrophic end. The breakdown of Western families continues at an alarming rate. Rising divorce rates, unmarried and same-sex relationships, physical and sexually transmitted diseases show that the West is at the top of the world. Islam, on the other hand, protects the race and provides a very smooth family system, such a system in which every family member is close to each other and treated with love and respect. The position of woman in Islamic family system is no less than that of any goddess. Sometimes she is worshiped in the form of mother, sometimes in the form of sister, daughter and wife, her every word is considered as the last word and her every wish is fulfilled.

Keywords: Family, Family System, West, Islam

Introduction:

Family is the basis of the society, which concerns itself with love, sexual relationship, marriage, reproduction, maintenance, protection, socialization of the child and various other roles involved in kinship organization. The process of socialization begins within the family with

the birth of a child. The family is responsible for the child's ultimate behavioral pattern than any other single environmental factor. In the modern civilized societies, the process of child socialization has come to assume utmost importance. The importance of childhood and the effects of home life on personality and character formation have been widely recognized. The main reason for all this being that the family monopolizes the time and experiences of the child during his formative years. The 'WE' feeling in the families is a helping agent in transmitting the family attitudes and sentiments in the child.

The family is also recognized as an institution for the fulfillment of sexual needs through the husband-wife relationship. In the real sense, the family is the answer to man's sex problems. The satisfaction of sex instinct makes for normal personality. Most societies have set up rather elaborate safeguards to ensure that sexuality is kept within the bounds.

The family as one of the chief agencies of social life is also required to perform social functions. This was not always so and in some societies it is not the case today. Over the years, wherever and whenever the women have been accorded a relatively equal status, the husband-wife relationship has taken on an added meaning in terms of companionship, shared activities, satisfaction of emotional needs and other manifestations of primary group association. In Pakistani culture, family ties have been very strong. The joint family system has been one of the characteristics of Pakistani social system and its features are more or less distinctive.

The concept of family

The word "Family" comes from the Latin word "*Familia*" which meant "household," a designation that included both servants and relatives.

The earliest uses of family indicated "a group of persons in the service of an individual," it is claimed; although, by Merriam Webster dictionary that it is an old meaning, but the fact is that this is the actual use of family today. The modern use of family has expanded as it is refer to one of a number of different groups of people or things collectively, such as chemical compounds, related languages, plants and animals, and people who may or may not share ancestry. In many legal contexts family represents "individuals related by blood, marriage, or adoption," but in

others the definition may be somewhat wide-ranging, covering groups of individuals not related by these things.¹

Family is an English word which is called in Urdu خاندان and "الاسرة، العائلة" in Arabic and "خانواده" in Persian which commonly used in the sense of family, tribe, community.

The importance of family

Families are important to individuals for several key reasons. The definition of family seems to change with the times, but it usually includes a group of people related to each other and/or living together. Like many healthy social relationships, strong links with family members can have great benefits for society and individuals.

Importance of family to Individuals

Family support is important to individuals for various reasons, most of which are related to one's personal well-being. Family is crucial to people because it can benefit a person's physical, emotional, and mental health, and what it offers human beings can't be found anywhere else.

Helps meet basic needs

The basic social unit called the family is tasked with meeting the basic needs of those family members who can't provide for themselves. This includes minors, the elderly and disabled, or simply those who can't afford to live by themselves. Basic needs such as food, water, shelter, and clean air are accessible when one or more members can provide these things for the whole family. Also, Family Improves Overall Well-Being for Individuals, because, staying close to your family might actually benefit your health. Staying isolated can increase a person's chances of declining health in middle-age and later years.

Family Meals Contribute to Healthy Diets across all ages, families who eat meals together have healthier diets that include eating breakfast, ample fruits and vegetables, and fewer processed foods. These healthy food choices create a foundation that lasts up to five years later for teens. This activity provides personal stress relief to family members.

Early Family Bonds Help Regulate Personal Emotions children who experience healthy family relationships at a young age show more control and regulation of their emotions when they're older, reports Sage Journals

Importance of family to Society

The importance of family in modern society is evident when you examine research about topics like crime, the economy, and social services. The important thing to remember is that family type isn't as important as the stability of the family unit.

Family Ties Help Regulate the Economy

Families who share strong bonds tend to prefer living situations where they can remain close in proximity. This contributes to more regulated jobs and wages because families who stay together want a job market with security and fair wages so they won't have to move away.

Family Values Influence Voting Behavior

It is often heard that kids model the behavior of their parents, and modeling is one of the strongest tools parents have. Political experts agree that families who take their kids to the polls and discuss why they vote with their kids likely contribute to voter turnout in the future. Kids who watched their parents vote in elections were more likely to view this act as a duty of their citizenship, regardless of their affiliated political party.²

The family system in Islam

The family is the most important and fundamental element of society which comes into being through the marital relationship between a man and a woman. It is the basic unit of society and from it societies come into being. The stronger and more stable the unit of the family, the stronger and more stable the society and the state. The importance of the family can be assessed from that the survival and protection of the family is one of the main objectives of Sharia. An entire branch of Islamic teaching, known as Munak'hat (مناكحات) or the Islamic family system has been created for this purpose.

Origin of Family System:

More than one third of the commandments in the Qur'an are to regulate the family system. The family is the largest social organization that pays important benefits simultaneously. It has the status of a basic group because the members of the family live together and are satisfied with all their needs and live a life of security and tranquility.

Allah Almighty addressed the people and said:

“O men, fear your Lord who created you from a single soul, and from it created its match, and spread from the two, many men and women. And fear Allah in whose name you ask each other (for your rights), and surely, Allah is watchful over you”³

He created human beings, all of them, in His wisdom and mercy. When he created all human beings from the one and only human being, that is, Sayyidna Adam (عليه السلام), and thus it was that He tied all of them in a strong bond of brotherhood. So, it is not only the fear of Allah and the fear of Akhirah (Hereafter) which demand man's allegiance to the Lord of all creation, but this bond of brotherhood between human beings also requires that rights of humanity - of mutual sympathy, wellbeing and collective good - be fully discharged. And between man and man, let there be no one high or low in race or caste, in color or language, and that all such distinctions be never made the criterion of good or bad, nobility or meanness.

The survival of the family system

According to Islamic teachings, a family, however, is formed by a marriage contract between a man and a woman and by the children of the next generation. But it also includes the husband's parents and unmarried relatives of blood relationship to form a large family. Then one of the characteristics of Islamic law is that Islam considers the protection of lineage and race as one of the general goals of Islamic law. That is, Islam has instructed marriage for the survival of the human race and has forbidden adultery (Zina) to protect it and keep it safe from the confusion of lineage.

The ruling on marriage in the Holy Qur'an is as follows.

وَأَنْكُحُوا الْيَتَامَىٰ مِنْكُمْ وَالصَّالِحِينَ مِنْ عِبَادِكُمْ وَإِمَائِكُمْ إِنْ يَكُونُوا فُقَرَاءَ يُغْنِهِمُ اللَّهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ⁴

And arrange the marriage of the spouse-less among you, and the capable from among your bond-men and bond-girls. If they are poor, Allah will enrich them out of His grace. And Allah is All-Encompassing, All-Knowing.

In the verse under consideration the guardians of unmarried girls and the owners of slave girls and boys are enjoined to marry them off. It is as if

Allah Almighty wants to protect the family and the lineage so much. That is why, for the protection of lineage, up to four marriages were allowed.⁵

وَأِنْ خِفْتُمْ أَلَّا تُقْسِطُوا فِي الْيَتَامَىٰ فَانكِحُوا مَا طَابَ لَكُمْ مِنَ النِّسَاءِ مَثْنَىٰ وَثُلَاثَ وَرُبَاعَ فَإِنْ خِفْتُمْ أَلَّا تَعْدِلُوا فَوَاحِدَةً أَوْ مَا مَلَكَتْ أَيْمَانُكُمْ ذَلِكَ أَدْنَىٰ أَلَّا تَعُولُوا⁶

And if your fear that you will not do justice to the orphan, then, marry the women you like, in twos, in threes and in fours. But, if you fear that you will not maintain equity, then (keep to) one woman, or a bond-woman you own. It will be closer to your not doing injustice.

His prophet ﷺ said:

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ، قَالَ: " تُنْكَحُ الْمَرْأَةُ لِأَرْبَعٍ: لِمَالِهَا، وَلِحَسَبِهَا، وَلِجَمَالِهَا، وَلِدِينِهَا، فَأَطْفَرُ بَدَاتِ الدِّينِ تَرَبَّتْ يَدَاكَ"⁷

A woman should be married on the basis of four reasons, either because of her wealth, or because of her lineage, or because of her beauty, or because of her religion. It is better for you to marry a religious woman. It is as if family traits have been taken into consideration in choosing a spouse for marriage because family traits are passed down from generation to generation.

The purity of the family system

He then declared adultery to be forbidden in order to protect the family and society and to prevent sexual misconduct and keep the race safe from the confusion of lineage.

Allah says:

وَلَا تَقْرَبُوا الزَّوْجَ إِنَّهُ كَانَ فَاحِشَةً وَسَاءَ سَبِيلًا⁸

Do not even go close to fornication. It is indeed a shameful act, and an evil way to follow.

Forbiddance of fornication given here are two reasons: (1) this is a shame, gross and immodest. Whoever is denuded of modesty is denuded of human nobility itself and is rendered incapable of distinguishing the good from the bad. (2) It generates limitless social disorder. The consequences of which sometimes destroy whole groups of human being.

Rulings about marriage for the protection of family system

Islam is a religion which has introduced marriage for the protection of family and lineage so that adultery can be prevented. Any woman other than a Mahram woman can be chosen for marriage. Those mahram

women in this verse It has been narrated. Interpretation of what Allah says as below:

“Prohibited for you are your mothers, your daughters, your sisters, your paternal aunts, your maternal aunts, daughters of brother, daughters of sister, your mothers who suckled you, your sisters through suckling, mothers of your wives and your step-daughters under your care who are born of your women with whom you have had intercourse - but if you have not had inter-course with them, then there is no sin on you. And the wives of your sons from your loins, and that you combine two sisters (in wedlock), except what has passed. Surely, Allah is Most-Forgiving, Very-Merciful”.⁹

The Head and Caretaker of family system

The family should consider democracy, as a small democracy, that can show its true image on a large scale in the political system of the country. Being a care taker (قواميت) of men does not mean that he becomes an oppressive, tyrannical cruel dictator and starts demanding obedience from the women of his family without any choice, but is given to take care of the family, therefore Both men and women are involved in moving the family forward and getting them out of decline. As if the family is like a car and the man and the woman have two wheels, even if one is punctured, the family car will not be able to reach the destination. The family system will only move in the right direction when each of the basic and fundamental members and other members of the family will take care of their rights and duties. Also it is noted that where the rights of one family member end, the rights of the other begin. This verse is mentioned in this regard, which makes the foundation of the family strong and stable.

الرِّجَالُ قَوَّامُونَ عَلَى النِّسَاءِ بِمَا فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ بَعْضَهُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ¹⁰

“Men stand caretakers of women since Allah has made some of them excel the others”

This is because they have spent of their wealth, so, the righteous women are obedient, guarding in absence with the protection given by Allah. As for women whose disobedience you fear, convince them, and leave them

apart in beds, and beat them. Then, if they obey you, do not seek a way against them. Surely, Allah is the Highest, the Greatest.

Meaning of Qawwam (Caretakers)

Mufti Muhammad Shafi interpreting the word Qawwam stated that:

“الرِّجَالُ قَوَّامُونَ عَلَى النِّسَاءِ” which has been translated as 'men stand caretakers of women.' qawwam, qayyam or qayyim in Arabic denotes a person who holds the responsibility or has the duty and charge to manage a job or run a system or take care of what has to be done about something, controlling all related factors therein. The standard role of a man, with regard to women, has been mentioned in this verse through the word, 'qawwam' which has been translated in various ways, the most common being in the sense of 'hakim' or one who rules, governs, or decides. Other alternates used are guardians, custodians, overseers and protectors.

When taken in the sense of a career, a functional head, and not in the political sense of a ruler or dictator, the 'qawwam' or hakim of the Qur'an offers a base of understanding from common experience. It is obvious that, for any group-living, big or small, or for any organized system, it is rationally and customarily necessary that the group or system have some head or chief or authority so that he can arbitrate in the event of a difference and take decisions to run affairs smoothly. That such authority is needed in the running of countries, governments and states is universally accepted and practiced.

This need, as felt in modern times, was also felt in the older tribal social organizations where the chief of a tribe was taken as the authority for that tribe. Why would a family organization, a micro-sample of the larger organizations, not need someone to head, maintain and run the system? Of course, the need is there and Allah Almighty, in His infinite wisdom, elected men for this responsibility because their natural capabilities are more pronounced than those of women and children. This is such an open and obvious fact of human life that no sane human being, man or woman, can say no to it; and its denial does not change reality.¹¹

Moulana maudodi wrote under the commentary of this word as that:

A qawwam or qayyim is a person responsible for administering and supervising the affairs of either an individual or an organization, for protecting and safeguarding them and taking care of their needs.¹²

Reasons for headship of men for family system

The first reason has been mentioned in the words: *بِمَا فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ بَعْضَهُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ*. It means that Allah Almighty has made some excel the others (in some qualities) under His exclusive wisdom and consideration. This is like the sacred environs of Makkah where a particular House of Worship was declared by Allah as His House and Qiblah (the orientation), and in Jerusalem, a special honour was given to the Bayt al-Maqdis. Similar is the case with the precedence of men. This is a God-given grace. Men have done nothing to get it and there is nothing wrong with women that they do not have it. It is simply based on the wisdom of creation, an exclusive privilege of the Creator.

The second reason relates to what is achieved with effort. This reason is pointed out by the words *وَبِمَا أَنْفَقُوا مِنْ أَمْوَالِهِمْ*, which mean that men spend their money, pay dower and take the responsibility of meeting all needs of women. Hence, he is the precedence.

The Qur'anic articulacy in describing the precedence of men

It is noteworthy that the Holy Qur'an, while giving the first reason for the precedence of men, has not opted for an expression like *فَضَّلَهُمْ عَلَيْهِمْ* - 'because He made men excel women', On the contrary, it has elected to give a deeper significance to the statement by using the expression: *بِمَا فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ بَعْضَهُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ*, that is, 'made some of them excel the others'. The wisdom here is not difficult to see. The Arabic expression has a subtle indictment to the fact that men and women are part of each other. Therefore, there is a hint that the 'precedence of men, even if proved in one or the other field, will not go beyond being similar to the precedence of man's head over his hand, or of his heart over his stomach. So, just as the precedence of man's head over his hand does not diminish the role and the importance of the hand, similarly, the precedence of man does not cause any lowering of the status of women, because both of them are parts of each other's body - if man is the head, woman is the body.

A closer look at the interpretation of the above verse reveals that if the family system can be decorated with prosperity and richness and can get rid of degradation and ruin, for it is necessary to hand over the sovereignty and leadership of the family system to men because Allah Almighty has declared them strong. Also for the sake of family, clan, tribe, society and defense of religion and promotion of religion, they have been taught jihad and fighting and the jihad of women to be said is Hajj. Men have the status of virtue in terms of their intellect and foresight too; because they working the wisdom and precaution unite the family, ignoring all kinds of family segregation for the survival and stability of family traditions and family system. In this way the family becomes a force to be reckoned with which also promotes the positive traditions of the Islamic family. It is as if men have a role to play in building and developing the family system.

Hybrid elements of family

The members of the family consist of men and women, children, parents and other relatives. Matters relating to women are these: videlicet marriage, divorce, training of children, parental rights; Compassionate reward and family harmony to be discussed.

The status of women in the family

A woman is a unit of the family system without which a family cannot be imagined. This woman has been a victim of persecution for a long time. Although nature made her alive and conscious like a human being, she was treated like a lifeless stone idol. She could have won or lost in gambling, she had to burn with her husband's body while performing Sati ritual. Somewhere she was considered the root of all evils, somewhere the sack of filth and somewhere the source of all human misfortunes was believed and somewhere the famous philosophers of the top were seen denying that she was a human being. Before entering into a marital relationship, she had no idea of her marital rights and no idea of seeking her opinion.

Before Islam, the condition of women was even worse in which they lived a life of helplessness. Where there is a sense of helplessness in the most important unit of the family, the word happiness remains meaningless.

The colors of the family are shattered. Islam was the first to announce her dignity as well as rights:

...ثم قال: ((ألا واستوصوا بالنساء خيراً؛ فإنما هنَّ عوانٍ عندكم، ليس تملكونَّ منهنَّ غير ذلك، إلا أن يأتينَّ بفاحشة مبينة،...ألا إن لكم على نساءكم حقاً، ولنساءكم عليكم حقاً...رواه الترمذي وقال: حديث حسن صحيح¹³.

“Then said: Beware! Treat your wives kindly, for they are your helpers and you have no authority over them unless they commit open indecency...Beware! Surely, you have a right over your women and your women have a right over you... It has been narrated by Tirmidhi, and he has said that this narration is Hasan and Sahih.”

It is proved that just as men have rights over women, so women have rights over men. She has her own opinion and the law respects her opinion. She was recognized as the heir to her parents, her husband and her children. They are playing their part and fighting for more rights. The liberation movements that have sprung up in modern times have certainly benefited women individually to some extent but have had a devastating effect on the institution of the family.

Marriage and divorce

The most important part of the family is actually the marital relationship between a man and a woman. This relationship strengthens and strengthens the individual strength of the family. This relationship is the source of satisfaction of individual needs and collective well-being. As far as divorce is concerned, it exists in almost all societies. Divorce is not allowed in some societies and marital relations are considered inseparable. Christian and Hindu societies can be cited as examples. The secular society of the West has rejected this notion of Christianity and has given women the right to divorce, as a result of which the practice of divorce is now increasing in the Western society. Divorce is, in fact, the severance of a relationship, which can have many causes: lack of affection, misbehavior, and a fatal illness. All religions have recognized the need for this and because of this the society has been saved from chaos. Divorce is an undesirable, but lawful thing, which can only be used in compulsory situations, but nowadays it is being made a toy. In western misguided societies it is being used widely, and Western thinkers are now deeply

concerned about the rising divorce rate. On the one hand, women have become insecure; on the other hand, the foundations of the family system have been shaken. The laws of marriage and divorce have been changing since the beginning of time, but they are still an integral part of human society. Just as the bond of marriage is a natural human need, so in some unavoidable circumstances, getting rid of this marital relationship is also one of its natural needs. This is called divorce.

Training and Education of children

After the male-female marital relationship in the family, the most important thing is the education and training of the children and the care of the elders, so they were given special care. Every family was considered honorable, especially those who were raising children, but in some societies girls were disliked and some ignorant Arab tribes buried girls alive. But Islam destroyed this cruel ritual and discouraged those who did so and interpreted the training of boys and girls as worship and benevolence. Hazrat Ayesha Siddique says about the training of girls:

عَنْ عَائِشَةَ قَالَتْ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: مَنْ ابْتُلِيَ بِشَيْءٍ مِنَ الْبَنَاتِ فَصَبَرَ عَلَيْهِنَّ كُنَّ لَهُ حِجَابًا مِنَ النَّارِ .¹⁴

The Messenger of Allah, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, said: Whoever is tempted to raise daughters and is patient with them, they will be a shield between him and the fire.

In Islam, one who raises daughters has been declared worthy of reward. The nature of training children also changed with social evolution. Children's training includes education and its various forms such as agricultural education, vocational skills, military training and religious education. As societal practices expanded, so did the training of children. However, each society considered its own specific ethical principles necessary for training. Due to the modern industrial revolution, life has become more complicated and spacious, raising children has become a difficult issue, but now children are considered a burden, because children are no longer financially supportive. Nowadays, procreation is disliked and many children are being turned into scarcity by artificial means.

Caring of the family

Caring for the elderly and their status is also an essential element of the family. Older parents are the organizational basis of the family. Because parents spend the best part of their lives in the service of their children, they are rightly considered worthy of support from their children in old age. In early societies parents were considered an integral part of the family and it was important for children not to neglect the service of their parents. In modern times, due to the weakness of the family system, the tendency towards individual independence and economic independence, their care system has changed. The tragedy of this age is that old fathers are providing the necessities of life with trembling hands and trembling legs and sons are proud of the health of their youth. This dangerous trend in Western society is now establishing permanent centers for the elderly called old homes, in which their care and basic needs will be taken care of. Islam has given a comprehensive practical plan for the training of children and respect for adults as well as their complete care. In the Qur'an, the Almighty says:

...وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا إِمَّا يَبُلُغَنَّ عِنْدَكَ الْكِبَرَ أَحَدُهُمَا أَوْ كِلَاهُمَا فَلَا تَقُلْ لَهُمَا قَوْلًا كَرِيمًا¹⁵

"...and do well to parents. If either of them or both reach old age, do not say to them 'uff (a word of anger or contempt) and do not scold them. And address them with respectful words"

Mufti Muhammad Shafi stated under the commentary of this verse as stated below:

"The merits of obeying and serving parents interpreted in the narratives as below: 1. In the Musnad of Ahmad, Tirmidhi, Ibn Majah and Mustadrak Hakim, it has been reported on sound authority from Sayyidna Abu `d-Darda' that the Holy Prophet ﷺ said, "A father is the main gate of Jannah. Now it is up to you to preserve or waste it." (Mazhari) 2. According to a report from Sayyidna `Abdullah ibn `Umar appearing in Jmi' al-Tirmidhi and al-Mustadrak of al-Hakim (which Hakim rates as Sahih), the Holy Prophet ﷺ said, "The pleasure of Allah is in the pleasure of a father and the displeasure of Allah in the displeasure of a father." 3. Ibn Majah reports on the authority of Sayyidna Abu Umamah that a person asked the Holy Prophet ﷺ: "What rights do parents

have on their children?" He said, "They both are your Paradise, or Hell." It means that obeying and serving parents take one to Jannah and their disobedience and displeasure, to Jahannam.

Obedience to parents, when necessary and when there is room for opposition. Muslim scholars and jurists unanimously hold that the obedience to parents is wajib (necessary) only in what is permissible - and definitely not in what is impermissible or sinful. Says the Hadith: لا طاعة إلا طاعة: لا طاعة لمخلوق في معصية الخالق There is no obedience to the created in the disobedience of the Creator".

Strong relationships at home

The basis of all family relationships in Islam is piety and piety. Allah says (interpretation of the meaning):

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتَقَاتُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ¹⁶

O mankind, we have created you from a male and a female and made you into races and tribes, so that you may identify each other. Surely the noblest of you, in Allah's sight, is the one who is most pious of you. Surely Allah is All-Knowing, All-Aware¹⁷

The Qur'an in this verse has made it clear that Allah has created all mankind from a single mother and a single father, and made them into a single brotherhood. But he has divided them into different tribes, nations, races, lineage and language-speakers/linguistic groups. The underlying Divine wisdom in such a division is mutual identification. For example, if there are two persons bearing the same name, they could be differentiated by family name. It can also show the near and remote relations. Their Shari rights can be fulfilled on the basis of near and distant lineage. It is incumbent to determine the near and remote agnate heirs when applying the law of succession or dividing the estate of a deceased. In short, reference to one's lineage for the purpose of identification is not deemed to be pride and conceit.

Family system in the West

In Western society, marriage is considered a legal contract rather than a formal contract. In which both the parents have the right of custody and ownership over the children. As parents, they both have their own role to

play in protecting their children and overseeing their children's development and survival in society. In some cases parents set aside a portion of their income for the family. Under normal circumstances, one earns for the family and the other has to take care of it.¹⁸ A study of the sciences that have been introduced in modern times under the names of Sociology and Anthropology shows that there has been a change in the definition of family and its functions.¹⁹

George Peter Murdock²⁰ in his book *Social Structure*, while studying the institution of the family, presented the pattern of 250 societies and concluded that the institution of the family is a In no case has it existed in human societies. He says: "The Family is social group characterized by common residence. Economic cooperation and reproduction .It includes adults of both sexes. At least two of who maintain a socially approved sexual relationship and one or more own or adopted children, of sexually cohabiting adults"²¹

Multi shapes of family system in the west

In the West, the concept of family has changed over time. Therefore, there is a family system in various forms which is socially and legally recognized. In the West, the family system exists in the following cases.

Nuclear Family

A family consisting only of parents and children is called a nuclear family. The nuclear family is also called the "Conjugal Family". In this family system, it is not necessary for a man and a woman to be married, only for them to have a marital relationship whose children are their own or adopted.²² In the United States, the concept of a conjugal family is common. This usually includes spouses and minor children.²³ Basic family and marital family are generally used interchangeably, but some sociologists distinguish between nuclear and conjugal. They have close ties with other members of the nuclear family. Conjugal families, on the other hand, have relatively few relationships with other family members. Changes in the concept of family over time led to the concept of conjugal family in which both parents belong to different sexes. The historical background of the nuclear family dates back to the fifth century AD.

The values of the nuclear family have been challenged by family structures such as the Step Family, Single Parents and Domestic Partnership.²⁴ Step family also called Blended Family and Bonus Family, Where one of the parents has no kinship or genetic relationship with the children. In a step-family, children can live with their relative mother or father.

Single Parent Family refers to a family that does not have a second spouse. This family is usually formed by the death of the spouse, divorce, artificial or unintended pregnancy. In which the individual (mother, father) sponsors the children. Historically, the main cause of single parent family is death of spouse. Another reason is the rising divorce rate. After divorce, most parents place more importance on raising their children than on remarriage. And the third major reason is artificial insemination. In recent years, there has been an increase in the number of women conceiving artificially, leading to an increase in the number of single parent families.

Single mothers are five times poorer than married parents. This issue is less discussed in Western European countries because there is a systematic arrangement of state sponsorship. The United States tops the list of developed countries with the largest number of single parent families. In 1998, 34% of households in the United States, 22% in Canada, 20% in Australia and 19% in Denmark had individual family systems.²⁵ According to the 2017 Census Bureau report, out of 12 million single inherited families, 4 million are families with 80% of children under the age of 18 being raised by their mothers only.²⁶

Domestic Partnership is based on the relationship between two people. In which both live a joint domestic life but are not married (neither to each other nor to anyone else). The term domestic partnership is not commonly used due to some legal complications. In some states, such as Australia, New Zealand, California, Maine, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin, terms such as civil partnership, civil alliance, and registered partnership are used instead of domestic partnership. These include the limited rights and responsibilities of partners. The some states have a constitutional code of domestic partnership, and some states have

legislated a code of conduct for domestic partnerships to recognize the legality of same-sex marriage.

Cohabitation is another term used in the West for family partnership. Cohabitation involves love and sex between two people and can be short-term or long-term. The term cohabitation in the West dates back to the mid-sixteenth century. Over the past few decades, the cohabitation family system has become increasingly common in Western countries. In the United States, the trend is growing rapidly among young people. Open interaction between young boys and girls has been cited as a major cause of cohabitation.

Two-thirds of married couples say they lived together before marriage. In 1994, 3.7 million couples in the United States were living in a cohabitation family system.²⁷ Dr. Galina Rhodes²⁸ states that it was not uncommon for couples to live together without marriage before 1970, but in the late 1990's, 50 to 60 percent of couples lived together before marriage.²⁹

In Western society, homosexuality began for a variety of reasons. The following reasons are stated in the survey reports. People live together for a variety of reasons, including saving money and housing, especially for low-income people who face financial difficulties, and even those who avoid marriage because of the wedding expenses and other responsibilities. They can't afford it or they are afraid that they will face financial difficulties in case of divorce.³⁰

Blended Family is such that one in three Americans is a step-parent, step-child, step-sibling, or other member of a step-family. One in three American children can expect to be a part of a step-family before they reach the age of eighteen.

Blended or mixed family consists of mixed parents and children. That is, one or both of the parents should remarry and both of them have children whom they raise together. Blended or mixed family is also called step family. According to sociologists, there are two types: conventional and non-conventional.

Traditional families are in the middle class where the father earns and the mother takes care of the house while in non-traditional families the mother earns and the father takes care of the house. The current tradition

in the United States is of an unconventional family system. The traditional family system term is used for an extended family not for nuclear family. The term nuclear family became common in the United States between 1960 and 1970. This was the time when foreigners entered the United States from Asia and Europe. In England, on the other hand, the idea was already there

According to a survey by a research journal, 25% of men and women have been married twice or more. He was about 50 years old. 42% remarried their first spouse. 75% had second marriages, of which 65% had their first children. 60% are those who remarried and then divorced. 15% of couples get divorced within three years of marriage, 25% of couples get divorced within 5 years and 39% of couples get divorced within ten years. According to government figures so far, the census includes families with children. If the child is living with a divorced, individual heir or non-citizen who remarries, the child is not registered as a member of that family.³¹

Extended Family is larger than the individual family which includes parents, children, husband's siblings and their children who live in the same family. That is, after marriage, the husband or wife lives together with the in-laws. Sometimes close relatives also live in a large family, such as an elderly relative who lives with them because of their age. In modern Western culture, the term "domination of close family" is used. The term is commonly used for grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins. However, this family is considered as a unit.

In some cultures, the term "Consanguineous Family" is also used. Typically such a family system exists in the countries of South Asia, Central Asia, Eastern Europe, Southern Europe, and Latin America and is present in India in the form of traditional family. There are large families in England. In the United States, 2.6 million families are under extended family system. In the US state of Mexico, three generations live together in a large family.³²

Matrifocal Family includes a mother and children, these children are usually her biological offspring, but now in almost all societies foster children are also common. This type of family is found where women

have all the resources to support their children. Her husband lives mostly out of the house and occasionally goes home. Husband status is secondary in households. It is not necessary for the husband of the children's mother to be their father. In general, the focus of this family is on the mother and the children. The woman is in charge of the daily routine of life. The mother-headed family is present in various cities and states of the West.

This family system is commonly found in the small African islands (Afro-Caribbean). This family system has existed at Bethnal Green in London since 1950. There is a Misikitu race in Central America and a maternal family in the state of Honduras.³³

Family of Choice

The term Chosen Family is also often used for the family of choice. Literally and figuratively, these families are formed based on the preferences of gays and lesbians. In which both spouses play their respective domestic roles ie one is husband and the other is wife. In Western countries, the term LGBT is used for a family of choice, meaning that gay men, gay women, bisexuals, and transgender people are part of that family. In this family, two or more people join together on the basis of preference. If any one of them leaves the family, he has to be ashamed in front of them. There are 12 conditions for joining a family of choice that bind them to a strong family relationship.³⁴

Monogamous Family refers to a family in which a person has only one legal spouse (husband or wife) in his / her life or only one spouse at a time, i.e. not having multiple legal spouses at the same time.³⁵ In Western European societies' monogamy is part of family values and is legally enforced in the developed world. Two marriages were banned in Japan in 1880, in China in 1953, in India in 1955 and in Nepal in 1963.³⁶ The feminist movement also recommended legalizing monogamous marriages, and the United Nations General Assembly agreed to monogamy based on the 1979 CEDAW convention, and made recommendations to implement the system in 180 countries around the world.³⁷ According to a 2003 UN report, 89% of people in the world get married at the age of 40, not all marriages are socially monogamous. In 80 to 85% of the society, polygamy is allowed. Socially Monogamous Family

comes into existence for a few reasons. These include factors such as availability of resources in the surrounding environment, geographical distribution, sexually transmitted diseases, spouse's protective attitude and mental attitude towards relationships.³⁸

Polygamous Family refers to a family where more than one spouse is married at the same time. Husbands and wives can have this relationship with two people at the same time. The term Polygyny is used for a man who has more than one wife at a time and Polymeric is used for a woman who marries two men at the same time.

Culturally, the practice of having more than one wife at a time exists in the Middle East, Africa and Islam. But having more than one husband at a time is allowed only in western societies. In Nepal, China and India also a woman can marry two brothers at the same time for which the term fraternal polyandry is used.³⁹

Global family trends

The family organization has undergone major changes in recent years. A traditional and individual family in Europe that once consisted of parents and children, today it has only optional status. The roles of men and women have also changed. Women and men are benefiting from equal opportunities in education and employment. These changes have also resulted in incredible changes in family structure and values.

Decreased marriage rates, increased divorce rates, and the widespread acceptance of same-sex families, the legal status of same-sex marriages, and reduced fertility rates have reduced the number of family members in the European Union up to the 2.4 per family.⁴⁰

In 2015, the American Enterprise Institute Washington described the global trend of family formation in the Wall Street Journal as the "global flight of the family":

"Statistics show that in 2013, 40% of children were born out of wedlock. The Census Bureau estimates that 27% of children live in homes without a father. Europe has seen a 40% increase in childless youth. In Sweden and Switzerland, four out of five women are childless. One in four women in Italy and one in three women in Berlin are childless. The same trend is

found in so-called traditional families. In Japan, about one in six women do not marry and about 30% of women are childless."⁴¹

The Destruction of the family system in West

The woman has the responsibility of domestic affairs and this responsibility has three aspects. One is that the birth, upbringing and training of children (which the Creator Himself has acknowledged to be important and difficult) second are that Performing household chores and the last is providing comfort to the husband.

Along with these three responsibilities, when the fourth responsibility of employment was placed on the shoulders of a woman, not only the first three responsibilities were neglected but also her caste crushed like a toy. His condition became like that of a woman descending from the top of a mountain and holding a jug full of water in both arms and holding it on one head.

In her book "Forgotten Families" Judy Hayman writes:

"The number of working women is growing rapidly in the developing world as well. Also, the trend of migration from rural areas to cities is gaining momentum. Due to these two factors, the old concepts and institutions of child rearing and care are disappearing and there is no welfare for children. New generations without parents are growing freely and are on the verge of destruction. The old system of community and family is gone."⁴² Not just the children, but the elders of the family are waiting for the end of life in the cold rooms of the old house. The children do not even have time for weekly meetings. The elderly have been waiting months for a reply from their loved ones. A society in which children do not have time to take care of the elderly and talk to them and relatives do not have time is definitely a destructive society. We see and hear in some societies the manifestations of defeat, disruption and disorder, and the disobedience of parents. The father grew old, his bones became weak, and he needed children to help him. But he does not find any of them except that one of them comes and in order to get rid of this old man, he entrusts him to an institution (Darul Aman) established for the old and helpless people. On the contrary, the teachings of Islam sanctify the parental relationship. Paradise and success are guaranteed in serving them and

gaining pleasure. They are unconditionally entitled to the property of their children.

The last president of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev⁴³ in his book "Perestroika" has created a chapter on women called "Status of Women". And it is clearly stated that: "In our Western society, women have been evicted from their homes and being evicted has certainly brought us some economic benefits and some increase in productivity, because men are also working and women are still working, but despite the increase in production, the inevitable result was that our family system was destroyed. And the losses we have suffered as a result of the collapse of this family system outweigh the benefits we have had as a result of this increase. So I'm starting a movement in my country called "Perestroika."⁴⁴ Women have always played an important role in life but a woman in the West cannot achieve anything by sacrificing her motherhood. Empty beds and deserted houses rush to cut. Moreover, the very existence of the job for which he wasted everything is at stake. European woman is in dire straits. It is very difficult for him to play the role of wife and working woman at the same time. Circumstances require high quality performance in everything, or nothing at all. There will be a very small number of women who are also playing a full role in domestic affairs and fulfilling their employment requirements. As a result of avoiding marital responsibilities, the basic unit of society, the family system, has deteriorated. The book "The Antisocial Family" maps out the situation as follows:

"It is particularly noteworthy that the widespread disintegration of the family as a basic unit of society and the increasing instability in family relationships, pointing to the growing trend of homosexuality and divorce. The new status of women in society and their desire to work, the lack of traditional moral values and the steady decline in the birth rate which has reached such a level that it is now difficult to maintain the population level. These are trends that are common to all European countries. Somewhere their intensity is less and somewhere more. Therefore, the future of these countries and their very existence is in danger."⁴⁵

One of the reasons for the moral depravity and family ruin in Western society is that alcohol and adultery have become commonplace. In the United States, hotels have been opened specifically for this purpose, which are only open on Sundays and closed for the rest of the day. The purpose of these hotels is to provide weekly romance facilities, where girls donate their bodies for thirty dollars to promote the prostitution business and this body is used for prostitution on the streets, in parks, hotels and bars. The mind keeps shining and innocence keeps putting its own price. Large numbers of men and women flock to pubs and hotels, which have made them a hotbed of free intercourse or free sexual pleasure. In Western society, boys often leave their homes when they reach the age of 15. At an early age, children become addicted to alcohol.

Daniel Bell writes:

"We are living in a period of cultural crises. It seems as if the very foundations of contemporary society are being threatened from within and without. The family as a basic and most sensitive institution of culture is being undermined by powerful and destructive forces"⁴⁶

Due to the equality of men and women, there was no head of the family, so the concept of family became obsolete. Instead of a broad family concept, there is now only the concept of Nuclear Families. That is, parents and their one or two children. This is the concept of the New Claire family. In the rest of this family, there is no concept of uncles, aunts, or cousins and uncles, sisters and brothers, but the relationship between sister and brother becomes meaningless after a certain age. Jimmy Carter writes in his book "Our Endangered Value":

"Divorce is now dangerously common in our country. Twenty-five percent of all American adults have been divorced at least once. It is as if the family system in the United States is in a state of disrepair. Sexual misconduct is more prevalent in the United States than in Canada and Europe. Abortions are more common here, and diseases such as gonorrhea and AIDS are more common"⁴⁷

Dr. Sullivan⁴⁸ writes in his book Alcoholism:

"Recruitment of women to normal sex work not only disrupts domestic responsibilities in case of marriage, but also hinders the acquisition of

family knowledge in childhood." As a result, complete ignorance about cooking, hygiene, cleanliness and childcare is spreading everywhere. And this has made mothers and wives belonging to the lower working classes of our country extremely helpless and wasteful. On the other hand, it is forcing the laborer, whose contentment depends on the woman, to spend her free time at public gatherings. This condition has also made him reluctant to add alcohol to his tasteless and undigested food. Research has shown that any employment that directly or indirectly excludes a woman from domestic pursuits can exacerbate the alcoholism epidemic. Rather, it must be said that it contributes to the health of the whole generation and increases the ill effects of this curse."⁴⁹

The cost of family breakdown that the West has paid for is reflected in the increase in spending on welfare, the cost of helping broken families and dealing with its side effects. These include child protection, crime prevention programs, drugs, pregnancy under the age of 20, special education and the elderly population. In the United States, for example, the number of family aid problems in 1998 was five times higher than in 1970. Health problems increased 15-fold during the same period. It is also a fact that the expenditure on health increased by about 225 million, and the amount spent on social welfare increased many times between 1991 and 1996. Billions of dollars are being wasted in court cases while the same amount could be used for more positive work.⁵⁰ The collapse of this institution gave rise to numerous problems which, instead of being solved, gave rise to more and more problems.

Conclusion

A closer look at the way Western societies are living today reveals that they are suffering the most from individual or family system breakdowns or debilitating illnesses. Which first made their hearts ache and now their homes are too bitter for them. Now it is not surprising that people in a neighborhood have lodged a complaint with the police that an elderly person has died while lying alone in a house and people are breathing due to its stench. It has become difficult. No one is aware of his death until the stench spreads. This is the end of materialism. When it overpowers moral values, but also morals and character, then this is the end and even more

surprising, but even more deadly and bitter is the fact that this disease is spreading in some Muslim societies as well, while they are witnessing the destruction of the family system in Western countries with their own eyes. Sexual immorality has destroyed all the pillars of social values and sacred relationships. The foundations of a great and fundamental cultural institution like the family have been shaken. Bloody relationships and pure passions are sacrificing free sexual lust.

Because Western women do not value their families, families and children, it is the turn of Western society to the point that today millions of destitute and bad young people in the United States and European countries, at the age of ten or twelve are wreaking havoc and ruin. Are these young people are being destroyed. There are killers, operating in drugs, cigarettes and other types of drugs. What is the reason for all this? The reason is that Western women are oblivious to the value of home, family and family life system. In the past, the condition of Western women was not like this. For forty-five years the condition of Western women has been deteriorating day by day, especially in the United States and some European countries. This is what happens in a society when the head of the family is broken. Today, Western society and the Western family are suffering. The West is troubled by sex. The family and home system of the West is not one of comfort and ease. Rather, it has become a source of anxiety and worry. People of the West are wandering around in dance clubs, casinos looking for peace, but peace is not found in their society or at home. There is a need for the people of the West to seek refuge in the mercy of Islam. In which there is peace and tranquility in this world and in the hereafter and it is also the duty of the Muslim of the present age to guide the lost and thirsty man of the West.

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