

GRADUATION PROJECT SAMPLE

Understanding the Perspective of Islamic Marriages



Introduction

In the Muslim culture, a household is not a static entity. It is a dynamic and living entity, given that it is the environment where life is generated. There is a clear distinction of roles. As a man digs the soil, it is the role of a woman to provide water to the soil. In a nuanced way, the sexual division of labor is evident. With these statements, the Muslim culture acknowledges the importance of marriage, though not necessarily seeing it as a way to establish a household. They believe that a household is already been set up by previous generations, but it is the task of the descendants to make sure that the house stays in existence. As such, marriage is a means to keep the house living through history.

The Islamic marriage system comes with its own set of specific characteristics and peculiarities. Most of these characteristics are carved out by tradition. They view marriage as a union of a man and women, thinking about the reciprocal services involved in domestic living, as well as the concept of procreation. Therefore, in this culture, marriage is not just about the affairs of the man and woman involved, but the actual bond uniting them as husband and wife. (King, 2002).

Background of the Study

Islam recognizes the values surrounding sex, advocating marriage. The religion does not actually believe in celibacy. In fact, a prophet in the religion said that it is a commandment for Muslims to marry. In this culture, marriage is viewed as an essential element for adults in the Islamic content. Marriage is also viewed as a contract between Muslim men and women. With this taken into context, individuals need to satisfy some conditions before they can go into marriage.

For one, there should be a clear proposal for the marriage. A clear acceptance should also be presented. There should also be competence on both sides. After the conditions are satisfied, the marriage should be witnessed by competent individuals from both families. It is very important not to include illicit sex, while safeguarding progeny legitimacy. It is also recommended that marriage need to be publicized widely.

Another interesting aspect in Islamic marriage is the "marriage gift". Dowry, or the marriage gift given by the groom to the bride is a symbolic expression of the cognizance of the groom of his economic responsibilities, as well as his readiness to assume the role of being the provided in the marriage (Salsta, 2006). The dowry should be accordingly estimated depending on the circumstances, while still emphasizing moderation.

Marriage and Weddings

In the Islamic culture, marriage is a typically a group affair. The ceremony often involves the couple, immediate family, distant relatives, friends, and neighbors. Their involvement is not just limited within the wedding ceremony. It is also important that while preliminary negotiations

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are done, they should also be there. Marriage is not just between individuals, but between families. This view has further added significance because in our modern system, the interest of the relatives only means that the two families have become a real kin on both sides (Nukurama, 2004).

After the marriage ceremony and the consummation, a food reception follows, making it public. This celebration is offered by both parents of the couple, their friends, or by the couple themselves. Neighbors, relatives and friends are typically invited. This reception should also be within the couple's means, and is also recommended by Islam.

Statement of the Problem

Allah has created both men and women, giving company to each other, giving focus on procreation, living in tranquility and peace to the commandments giving by Allah, as well as the directions sent through his messenger. Nature also arranged the possibility of man and woman being attracted to each other. This attraction is natural, binding them together, leading them to make a decision that will allow them to live a common life while forming a family of their own. This tendency, and the instinct of sex, need to be guided towards the right direction so that it can be used in the service of humankind.

This is the reason why a marriage contract is viewed as sacred by different nations. In line with this, enough attention is also paid across different legal systems towards the questions that are linked with it. Islam has also given a huge importance on the questions involved in marriage within the social system.

References



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