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- iii. If they face any difficulty in the centre, they can contact the Rescue teams.
- iv. The Rescue Teams shall be headed by
 - a) (DWPOS) District Women Protection Officer

- b) (DWPC) District Women Protection Committee, which can visit any place in order to protect Women from violence

LONG QUESTIONS

Q3. What is the status of Woman in Islam? Elaborate in the light of the Qura'an and Sunnah.

Ans. **Status and Rights of Women in Islam:**

All religions, especially Islam, condemn every kind of violence against women.

1. Status of Woman according to the Holy Qura'an

The following Quranic verses interpret the status of woman:

"We do not waste the actions of any doer, whether man and woman." (Al-Imran-195)

"Any person who does good deeds, whether man or woman, and will be a Momin, we shall provide pious and prosperous life (of this world) and shall give them very good reward of his actions on the day of Judgment." (Al-Nahl:97)

2. Salient Example of Hazrat Hajra (A.S):

Hazrat Hajra (A.S) elevated the status of women before Allah Almighty. She ran briskly between "Saffa" and "Marwa" and sought help from Allah Almighty for the provision of food and water for Hazrat Ismail (A.S). This act of Hazrat Hajra (A.S) was so much liked by Allah Almighty that he regarded running between "Saffa" and "Marwa" as the greatest pillar of Hajj. It is obligatory for all men and women to follow her footsteps and repeat this act for the completion of their Hajj.

3. Hazrat Khadija (R.A), the most successful trader:

The first wife of the Holy Prophet (S.A.W) Hazrat Khadija (R.A) was a wealthy and distinguished lady of Arabia. She (R.A) had a trade centre in Makkah. She used to look after the centre herself. She used to trade to the markets of far off countries like Syria. She hired paid merchants. They used to take commercial goods outside the city and bought their commercial goods and sold it in Makkah. We can judge the success of the business of Hazrat Khadija (R.A) by the enormous size of her caravan which comprised of all the caravans of Quraish that used to go to the Syria during summers and to Yemen during winter.

4. Steps taken by the Holy Prophet (S.A.W) for deprived segment of society:

The Holy Prophet (S.A.W) stressed on the social reforms. The Holy Prophet (S.A.W) said that social reforms could only be brought by providing basic rights to the oppressed and deprived segment of society especially women, orphans and slaves.

5. Examples of the great women of Islam:

Hazrat Fatima (R.A), Hazrat Ayesha (R.A) and Hazrat Zainab (R.A) are the living examples of those famous women who remained steadfast against cruelty and oppression and became a guiding principle for the Muslim Women in trial.

Conclusion:

From the above discussion we conclude that both men and women are equal in the eyes of Allah Almighty. They are accountable for their deeds and actions performed in this world and will be

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rewarded on the Day of Judgment.

Q4. Analyse the public opinion regarding violence against women.

Ans. Critiquing Common Ideas about Violence against Women:

Violence:

Violence, according to the World Health Organization, is defined as the intentional use of physical force or power which either results in or may result in some injury, death, psychological harm or deprivation."

Violence against Women:

Violence Against Women (VAW) is a form of gender based violence. It has adverse effects on women's physical, mental and reproductive health.

United Nation's definition of Violence against Women:

According to the United Nations, Violence Against Woman (VAW) is "any act of gender based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life."

Causes of Violence Against Women:

- i. The society has usually accepted violence against women as a common phenomena.
- ii. The punishments given to the criminals are not implemented.
- iii. There is gender discrimination in the society.
- iv. Moreover, the common cause of violence against women is ignorance of the rights of the women given by Islam.

1. Myth:

It is a Myth that violence against women happens due to the mistake or fault of the offender herself.

i) Fact:

Some people argue that violence occurs because of the way women dress up, their marital status, their way of living, their mindset etc. This argument is incorrect because it puts blame on the victim rather than the offender. It is important to realize that violence is only the offenders fault and not the victims. Violence is usually perpetrated because alternate ways of dispute resolution are not readily available. As a result, it is important to provide avenues of dispute resolution such as mediation so as to reduce and prevent incidents of violence.

2. Myth:

When the Women play some particular role in their daily life, it leads to violence against them.

i) Fact:

In our society, the public sphere is usually unsafe for women. As a result, women are forbidden or discouraged from stepping out into public places. This perception is incorrect because violence against women can occur both inside their houses as well as outside. Moreover, everyone has an equal right to access public spheres. Instead of restricting women from public places, emphasis should be placed on making all public spheres available and secure for women.

Conclusion:

The major cause of violence against the women is the ignorance of the rights and duties in the right sense. In an Islamic society, it is essential for men and women to have awareness of their rights and duties in the light of the teachings of Islam. Only in this way violence against women can be decreased.

Q5. Describe the salient features of the Punjab Protection of Women against Violence Act 2016.

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1. The Punjab Protection of Women against Violence Act 2016:

To provide protection to women, the Punjab Government passed the Punjab Protection of Women Against Violence Act on 24th February 2016. It provides justice, protection and relief to all women who have been subjected to violence.

The Act provides justice to female survivors of violence by protecting them from crimes such as abetment of an offence, domestic abuse, emotional and psychological abuse, economic abuse, stalking and cybercrime.

2. Implementation Mechanism:

Many women in Pakistan do not demand justice and emancipation against violence because they are not provided any help by the society against injustice. Keeping in view this state of affairs, the provincial government has established Anti Violence centres at District level in the whole province. These centres shall remain open both in the morning and evening. Women staff shall be recruited for these centres.

3. Facilities available in Anti Violence Centres:

- i. Women who are victims of violence shall have an access to Police.
- ii. The dependents of the victims of violence shall be provided medical, legal and psychological help.
- iii. If they face any difficulty in the centre, they can contact the Rescue teams.
- iv. The Rescue Teams shall be headed by
 - (a) (DWPOS) District Women Protection Officer
 - (b) (DWPC) District Women Protection Committee, which can visit any place in order to protect Women from violence

4. Toll Free Numbers:

Toll free numbers shall be provided to those women who are unable to visit the centres. They can get information and help from these numbers. This toll free number shall be available in addition to the already established number (1043) where women can complain against violence.

5. Help Line:

Every woman can call the (Helpline) from her Mobile phone or landline number. The Helpline Operators shall provide them information regarding the registration of their complaints.

6. District Protection Officer or the Local Police:

The Helpline Operators shall get the victims in touch with District Protection Officer or the Local Police Station and other District Government officials.

7. 8787:

The victims can contact Police through SMS number 8787.

8. The Constitution of Pakistan and Human Rights:

According to the Constitution of Pakistan all human beings have the right to lead independent life. So that they can become citizen with rights of the society.

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Conclusion:

As a conclusion, it can be said that government is taking keen interest in eradicating the violence against women with the help of legislation and implementation of the laws.

Q6. Describe in detail the facilities provided by Anti Violence Centres for women.

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The Government of Punjab is establishing Anti Violence Centres for Women at District Level. These centres shall remain open both in the morning and evening. Women staff shall be recruited for these centres.

Facilities provided by Anti Violence Centres:

These Anti Violence Centres shall provide following facilities:

1. Access to Police:

These centres will provide an access to the Police to the women who are victim of violence.

2. Every possible help to dependents of victim:

These centres shall provide every possible help to the dependent of the victims including Medical, legal and Psychological help.

3. Provision of Shelter Homes:

The Anti Violence Centres shall provide shelter to the victims of violence against women.

4. Access to Rescue Teams:

If the victims feel any problem in the Anti Violence Centres, they can contact the Rescue Teams which are headed by (DWPOS) District Women Protection Officer and (DWPC) District Women Protection Committee, which can visit any place in order to protect women from violence.

5. Toll Free Numbers:

Toll Free numbers shall be provided to those women who are unable to visit the centres. They can get information and help from these numbers. This Toll Free number shall be available in addition to the already established number (1043) where women can complain against violence. Any victimized woman can call to the Helpline from her mobile phone or landline. The Helpline operators shall provide them information regarding the registration of their complaints.

The victims can also contact to the Police via SMS 8787.

Conclusion:

In the light of above discussion it is concluded that according to the constitution of Pakistan all human beings have the right to lead independent life. As long as the women are victim of violence, they cannot get their right status completely. Therefore, this is the duty of every citizen to raise their voice against cruelty and oppression and play their role in provision of the right and honourable status to the women in society.