Family In Islamic Civilization

Islamic civilization spans across different regions and cultures around the world, and in all of them family plays a crucial role with serving as the cornerstone of social structure, cultural values and religious teachings. The concept of family in Islam goes beyond biological relationships, encompassing emotional, spiritual, and social connections. This concept is deeply rooted in the teachings of the Quran and the Hadith, the sacred texts of Islam, as well as the practices of the Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessing be upon him) and his companions.

The family in Islamic civilization is based on the concept of marriage. The marriage is considered as a sacred bond between a man, husband, and a woman, wife. Islamic marriage is a contractual relationship that entails mutual rights and responsibilities for both partners. As emphasized in the Qur’an with the verse: "And of His signs is that He created for you from yourselves mates that you may find tranquility in them; and He placed between you affection and mercy. Indeed, in that are signs for a people who give thought" (Qur’an 30:21), the marriage is constructed by love, mercy and companionship. This verse undirlines the the importance of emotional connection and compassion between partners to create a loving environment in the familiy.

In addition to the Qur’an, the Hadith, sayings and actions of the Prophet Muhammed (peace and blessing be upon him), also emphasize the significance of family in Islamic civilization. The Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessing be upon him) said, "The best among you are those who are best to their families, and I am the best to my family" (Sunan Ibn Majah). With this Hadith kindness, comnpanssion and respect in the family environment is highlighted.

Moreover, beside the Qur’ar and the Hadiths, countless examples about the importance of the family exist during the Islamic history. For instance, Caliph Umar ibn Abdul Aziz, a revered Islamic ruler, was known for his piety, justice, and devotion to his family. His family life is a great model for Muslims to prioritize their families.

As another source, Islamic law, or Sharia, also plays a crucial role in constructing the family structure in Islamic civilization. Sharia governs various aspects of family life, including marriage, divorce, inheritance, and guardianship. As mentioned previously, Islamic marriage is considered a sacred bond based on mutual consent, love, and respect between partners. So, another example of how important is the marriage, divorce is considered a last resort in Sharia, and efforts are made to reconcile differences and maintain the sanctity of family life.

Furthermore, contemporary scholars and researchers also accepts the pivotal role of family in Islamic civilization. They highlight how a healthy family unit serves as the foundation for a strong society and emphasize the central role of family in Islamic civilization.

In conclusion, family holds a paramount importance in Islamic civilization, as emphasized in the Qur'an, Hadith, Islamic history, Islamic law, and contemporary perspectives. The family is considered as a institution which is considered sacred and which serves as the foundation of society.

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Resources

* <https://www.al-islam.org/>
* "Family Life in Islam" by Dr. Muhammad Abdul-Rauf
* "The Family Structure in Islam" by Dr. Jamal Badawi
* "Marriage and Family Ethics in Islam" by Dr. Abdulaziz Sachedina
* https://www.iium.edu.my/