

NO GENDER SEGREGATION IN ISLAM

Sheikh”Muhammad Abduh” (Egypt 1849-1905) the Head of Islamic verdict body (Mufti)for Egypt & most Islamic countries in his time wrote on this issue saying

1) **MEN & WOMEN ARE MIXED IN THE CROWD IN HARAM MAKKAH** , & Haram Makkah is the holiest place & Haj or Omra’ is the highest spiritual/religious status for muslims , thus if gender segregation was a virtue by any means ,then ALLAH & the Prophet who call for piety would have segregated women & families from for bachelor men in Haram or assigned different times for each of them so as not to meet or mix

2) **NOT ONE SINGLE VERSE IN QURAN CALL FOR BARRING WOMEN OR SEGREGATING HER IN PUBLIC LIFE** , on the contrary, Islam equated women to men except only in the polygamy right- due to biological reasons -Q 4;124

????? ?????????? ????? ?????????????????? ??? ??????? ???????????

translation “And whoever does righteous deeds, whether male or female,”—— Also Islam did not ask women to cover their face or bar themselves from public life (see my article “No face covering for women in Islam”)

3) **ALLAH HAS CREATED THIS WORLD & ENABLED THE HUMANKIND (MALE & FEMALE)TO ENJOY ITS BENEFITS** within his/her best capacity under enacted rights & duties & ALLAH has equated man & woman in their duties & in their right to enjoy the world benefits & did not divide or segregate the earth to areas , some for men& other for women , whereby each gender work & enjoy the benefits separately , but ALLAH has made life pleasures common to both genders subject to their work & effort without any discrimination, so how come any woman can enjoy the benefit ALLAH allowed her as a result of her work without interacting & dealing with the male & female gender , definitely neither the Shara (Islamic legislation) neither mind would accept this , moreover those who ask for women segregation are all having foreign women servants (who are not legal relatives) for serving themselves or families in their homes & without any segregation, so how come they allow the mixing behind closed doors & ban it in public life

4) **ISLAM HAS ALLOWED WOMEN TO OWN & MANAGE THEIR OWN PROPERTY** & wealth& to manage it separately from their husbands or families , so how come the woman can handle her business & interact with public & government & judicial bodies & customers & suppliers (men & women)if she was segregated or barred & it has been proven from many cases that women have been robbed & embezzled by their male relative proxies when the women were barred & handed over their business management to their male relatives

5) **ALLAH GAVE EXAMPLES OF HIGHLY RANKED WOMEN** holding top governing positions as Queen” Belques” of Yemen “Sabaa” , when telling the story of “Solaiman” , Q 27;23

??????? ?????????? ??????????? ?????????????????? ?????????????????? ??? ??????? ?????????? ?????????? ??????????

“???? ?????? ? ?????? ??????? ?????? ?? ????? ????? ?????”

translation “The men and women did ablution together in the time of the Messenger of Allah. This sahih hadith (thought to be true) proves that there is no gender segregation nor face barring because the ablution process requires revealing face, hair , arms , foot..

9)-**WOMAN BARRING& FACE COVERING CAN BE A GOOD MEANS FOR SIN** & fornication because women who want to have illegal relation with strange men can go out undercover(full veil) & do any sin without their husbands or relatives or anyone identifying them

10) **GENDER SEGREGATION CAN BE OPTIONAL BUT NOT COMPULSORY** , thus, If a group of women or men decide to have an exclusive private gender club area or association or school or other, then it is up to them & their choice but this is not a social compulsion or requirement of Islam

11) **ALLAH ACKNOWLEDGED MALE & FEMALE MIXING IN PUBLIC LIFE & PLACES & told them both to lower their gaze** & observe decency guidelines as stated in Quran 24;31

??? ?????????????????? ?????????? ??? ? ?????????????????? ?????????????? ?????????????? ? ?????????? ?????????? ?????? ? ?????? ?????????? ?????????? ?????????????????????? ?????????????????? ?????????????????? ?????????????????? ?????????????????? ?????????????????? ?????????????????? ?????????????????? ?????????????????? ,

translation “ tell the believing men to lower their gaze and guard their genital parts. that is purer for them. indeed, allah is acquainted with what they do. and tell the believing women to lower their gaze and guard their genital parts and not expose their adornment except that thereof appears and to bring their covers over their bosoms “–