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BY MUSHTAQ UL HAQ AHMAD SIKANDER

Nature has been very generous while bestowing its bountiful creations upon us in abundance. To utilize these bountiful gifts of nature to its full extent needs expertise and to gain this expertise "Education" is the only way out. Literacy and education in Kashmir has been deep down in slumber for centuries, though there has been recent increase for the literacy rate, but the situation still continues to lurk in the dark. As per the 2001 census, the literacy rate of Jammu and Kashmir was 55.5% (Male 66.6% and Female 43%) where as the all regions of J&K, political education shambles on the lagging behind.

**Jamia-Tul-Banat
Kashmir**

Jamia-Tul-Banat caters to the educational needs of women and is pioneer in this field.

India average is around 64.8%. Among the three the Valley has been worst hit due to the ongoing instability which had an adverse effect on the sector also. The institution of education is in whole and education among females is still

To counter this menace scores of educational institutions and madaris have sprung up with the majority among them turning into money churning factories, but still there are some exceptions.

Jamaia-tul-Banat is one such glaring example meant only to cater to the educational needs of women and is a pioneer in this field. The Jamia is situated in Umer Colony B of the Lal Bazar area away from the hustle and bustle of city life. The chief administrator of the Jamia Muhammad Abdullah Wani informs me that this institution was established in July 1999 by a Trust known as "Taleem-e-Niswaan Trust". The purpose behind the Trust is to quench the thirst of religious knowledge of young girls. The admission to this Institute is solely given on the basis of merit in a written test conducted by the faculty. A girl must have completed her matriculation after which she is eligible for the test. Those students who pass the test with distinction are then made to pay the admission fee of rupees 8,500 for six years which is to be spent for their bed, cupboard, utensils, books and other essentials during their stay at the Jamia

hostel. Thereafter they have to pay Rupees 1,300 monthly as tuition and hostel charges, a ten percent quota for orphan girls is also reserved under which all the burden of their educational expenses is borne by the institution. The 6 year course is divided into three phases.

Pre-Aalimah:- It is one year duration in which the student becomes acquainted with the Arabic language and grammar, so that she can understand, write and gain fluency in the language which is essential to understand Islam from its primary sources.

Aalimiat:- After the completion of Pre-Aalimah course, the students become eligible for the Aalimiat courses, which is of two years duration, in which Quran, hadith and Muslim history are taught. Besides that, English, Urdu and Islamic Studies subjects from the prescribed books by J&K Board of School Education are also taught. At the completion of this course, a course certificate is given to the students. Then they enter the final phase.

Fazeelat:- It lasts for three years besides the religious subjects books prescribed by Kashmir University (KU) for English, Urdu and Islamic Studies are also opted. The exam to this course is conducted by the KU itself which is equivalent to three years of the bachelors degree from any other college. This recognition of Fazeelat makes it possible for them on the completion of Fazeelat, to be eligible for admission to Post-Graduation and higher studies in various branches of Humanities from Kashmir University. Besides education all students are made familiar with the basics of the computer sciences.

Tongue

The Source of Heaven or Hell

By: Shakeela Bhat (English Lecturer, Jamia-Tul-Banat)

Allah says in the holy Quran that “He has bestowed a human being with two eyes, a tongue and two lips.” All these organs are the blessings of Allah. Among the three organs quoted above the subject of my topic would be the ‘Tongue’.

Tongue is one of the greatest blessings of Allah which helps us in expressing our emotions and thoughts. It is the only source of verbal communication which a man possesses. If the same organ is used in accordance with the guidance of the Quran, it will Insha Allah lead us to Heaven. If not, it may result in the damnation of our souls. No one among us would like to go in the Hell but every one of us whether we do good or bad deeds wishes to enter the Heaven. For entering the Heaven we should definitely remain away from all kinds of sins and in particular from the sins which are committed by the tongue.

For that purpose we must be knowing in what kinds of sins can a person indulge because of his tongue. The few among them are quoted below:

1. BACKBITING:-

If a person talks something about any other person in his absence and which that person would not like on hearing is known as backbiting. In this case both the talker and the listener are sinners. It is one among the serious sins. Our beloved Prophet (PBUH) has said that if someone commits this sin, it means he has eaten the flesh of his dead brother. Islam considers this sin serious than adultery. It strictly prohibits Muslims from committing this sin.

2. FALSEHOOD:-

Speaking lie is also among the serious sins. Once a man went to our beloved Prophet (PBUH) and said that he was used to commit four kinds of sins (*Adultery, drinking alcohol, speaking lie, and theft*) and wanted to leave only one among them. He asked the Prophet (PBUH) which sins should he leave first. He(PBUH) emphasized to avoid speaking lie. By this we can guess that speaking lie is filthiest than adultery, drinking alcohol and theft.

3. ABUSE:-

Abusing someone is the disliked act in Islam. Prophet (PBUH) has said that “*abusing someone is a big sin.*” We have no right to dishonour someone by abusing him. We can’t rob off someone of his wealth and honour as both the things are forbidden (*Haram*) on us. These things are personal property of a person. According to the teachings of Islam we can’t even abuse animals and birds.

4. Disclosing Secrets of others:-

One more sin which we commit by our tongue is disclosing someone’s secret. If Allah hides someone’s sins and we would be eager to it then Allah will disclose our secrets. It means in maintaining secrecy of others secrets there is our own safety.

5. Talks related to sex:-

Many people indulge in talks related to sex with their friends, boy friend/ girls friend and fiancé /fiancée. Allah dislikes and strictly forbids this act. One should keep one’s tongue pious from such talks. Allah loves those who remain away from adultery and the talks related to it.

6. Loquacity:-

The lost sin which I would like to talk about committed by our tongue is ‘Loquacity’. Loquacity means talking a lot. People usually talk a lot even if it is not required. They go on talking non stop. And when a person speaks a lot there is hundred percent probability that he would indulge in all the above mentioned sins. It means if he would speak less (Speak only when required) then he would not only remain away from all those sins mentioned above but will be bestowed with the blessings of Allah. Allah gives freshness to such person’s heart.

All the above mentioned sins are among the major sins and the only source of committing them is tongue. These sins lead a person directly to the Hell. Thus, if we control our tongue, become reserved and talk less, we would be able to please Allah and our beloved Prophet (PBUH).

To sum up the topic by the sayings of our Prophet (PBUH):

(Narrated by Sahel Bin Saad)

“One who would give me guarantee of what is between his thighs (private parts) and what is between his lips (tongue) will certainly enter the Heaven”.

So a person who would remain away from adultery and sins committed by the tongue will certainly enter Heaven. May Allah help us to follow Islam and to stay away from all kinds of sins including those which are committed by the tongue.

Islamic Education

Today's Requirement for Youth

By: Syeed Snowber Sajad (Fazila 1st)

As we all know the youth is the backbone of the society and can bring any revolution in the society. They are full of energy and have the ability to direct the society in a positive direction. They are the guardians of future and need special concern.

These days the youth work really hard and make every effort to be successful. They themselves as well as their parents are worried about their career which would in turn help them to earn their livelihood comfortably and honourably.

But today in which we are mostly involved is that we have forgotten the purpose of our existence in achieving worldly fame. We are so deeply involved in ourselves that we hardly care about our religion and moral values, which have gone into the backdrop. In present age, the religious education hardly matters and is considered secondary to worldly education and no one is interested to give the young generation the knowledge of basic Islamic values as a result they have become morally weak.

All this has a adverse effect on our society. Today's youth is entrapped by all kinds of unusual ideologies. They have become totally westernized as they don't have any guiding force to take them to the right path.

Lack of proper Islamic setup has resulted in the moral degradation of the whole society. People think that it is pride in coping the west. Modernization have made people's minds filled with evil ideologies, indecent and offensive attitude and disregard for authority, divine as well as human, which could be seen every where.

As such our society has fallen prey to the evil thoughts of *Shaitan* We have moved from the divine way of life. The sooner we realize our foolishness the better it would be for us. There is a basic need to change our hearts and minds. In this process none other than the youth can play the important role, as Alama Iqbal(RA) prays to Allah for the welfare of youth.

Women Education

By: Aasiya Ismail (Fazila Final Year)

William Wordsworth has said,

“The hands that rock the cradle, rules the world”

This is hand of mother, which has been referred here. The women play a vital role in the progress and prosperity of a country, only when they are educated. Educated woman makes the family and society cultured. The mother's lap is the first school of a child which too reveals the importance of her being educated. It is well said, “if we educate a male we educate a person, but if we educate a female we educate a family”. The women thus should be given due care and proper education so that they are equal to men in society and in every field of life.

Family is under the role charge of woman and if woman is not properly educated, the institution of the family is spoiled and this, as history has shown, often brings down the fabric of civilization itself. It is because of this seminal importance of the role of women that Prophet Muhammad(PBUH) laid extreme emphasis upon the education of women. He says *“Acquisition of knowledge is a bounden duty of every Muslim man and woman”*.

The Prophet of Islam(PBUH) also laid stress upon the fact that woman has to act as a guardian of the home. In numerous other sayings, the Prophet (PBUH) extolled the upbringing, training and education of girls laying more emphasis on their education than on the education of boys. He says “One who brings up three

daughters, educates them and helps them settle in life, Paradise is due to him". Some people are with the belief that there is no need of educating the girls because ultimately they are to be married and are engaged in domestic work in the furnace of their homes. The woman education is facing many hazards like child marriage, financial stresses, lack of proper curricula for girls and negative attitude of government towards expansion of female education. Last but not the least, the most significant contribution of woman is, however, the one she makes in the role of mother. It has rightly been remarked that behind every great man there is a woman. The education of girls has assumed particular significance in the present age. Consequently it deserves our special attention and earnest effort to promote and augment woman education through the length and breadth of the world.

To conclude we may say that it is very much essential that women should be given education according to their particular attitude and life demands. Women are naturally equipped with modesty so they can prove best tutors to educate our coming generation. This reveals the importance of female education.

Status of women in Islam

By Syed Rifat Hamid Andrabi(Aalima 2nd)

It is well known to almost every body that prior to the advent of Islam, women were considered inferior to men and they were deprived of the right to inherit property. The treatment meted out to them was so rude that a human being could hardly think of. They were treated as slaves. This made them suffer immensely for centuries. The birth of the daughter was considered to be in-auspicious.

It is only with the advent of Islam that this evil was eliminated and that for the first time in the history of mankind, women were given due legal rights over property. In Islam women enjoys the same status as that of a man. In the holy Quran it is explicitly stated, *“you are members, one of another”*. There is no difference between man and women as regards, status, rights and blessing both in this world and in the world hereafter. In order to prove the equality of both sexes reference to some of the relevant verses of quran, The sunnah.

Quranic verses:

“ Treat them with kindness for even if you dislike them it may be that you dislike which Allah has meant for your own abundant good.” (Al-Nisa:19)

“ Women shall with justice have rights similar to those exercised in favour of men although men have a degree (advantage) above women. Allah is almighty and wise”.(Al-Baqarah:228)

The Sunnah:

“ Only a man of noble character will honour women and only a man of base intentions will dishonor them. The most perfect man of religion is one who excels in character.r”

“ The best among you is he who gives the best treatment to his women folk.”

It is to be concluded that in Islam, women were given equal rights as well as equal status as that of men. The western world no doubt tried best but practically failed in doing so. By passing resolutions doesn't mean that equality had been brought. It has to be practically implemented which is the most difficult task.

Muhammad (PBUH)

By: Rafia Ara(Fazila 2nd)

Muhammad Muhammad

He is Rasullallah (SAW)

His mother named Amina

His father Abdullah

Grew up with a nursing mother,

He never saw his father,

At six he lost his mother

And lived with his grand father.

When his grand father died

Who is stay by side?

Open his heart so wide

But his uncle Abu Talib

He was called Al-Amin,
The trust worthy its mean,
And shuttered to Khatija,
And everyone called him
Mohammad Al-Amin

He did have seven children,
Al- Qasim and Abdullah
Daughters, Zanib and Ruqaya
And Um-e-kulsoom and Fatima
And his son Ibrahim

Forty years gone,
Noboowa was come
Islam spreads then,
His success in mission.

On his Sham's trading journey,

When going and returning,
Was followed by a cloud,
To protect from the sun burning,

Muhammad Muhammad
He is Rasullallah(SAW)
His mother named Amina
His father Abdullah.

Women

You're Beholden to Islam

By: Asfa Showket(Pre-Aalima)

When I see the women's fate in the present day would I get disappointed because she is deprived of all the rights she should have, But when, however I look at Islam I really get satisfied by the treatment Islam has to offer to her. In ancient times (Before Islam) women came to be considered inferior. But Islam gave her lot of respect and regard. As Prophet Muhammad(PBUH) says: *"Heaven lies beneath the feet of a mother"*. Mother is a women. These words of Prophet Muhammad(PBUH) raised status of women to those heights that can't be even imagined in ancient times. Before the advent of Islam, girls at the time of birth were buried alive, but Islam came with life, respect and regard for them. Prophet Muhammad(PBUH) came as benefactor of humanity especially for women. He gave them due respect and all the rights they should have.

Before Islam, women had no right to property. Even in the world of today there are many societies which have deprived women to inherit the property, they have no right to have their own property. Islam recognized the rights of women own family property. It has given her right to posses or own or to dispose of her property in any way she feels dignified whether single or married.

In every period of history, even today in most of the developed countries less stress has been laid to women's education. Islam has given great importance to women's education. There is a famous saying of

prophet Muhammad(PBUH) that: *“Acquisition of knowledge is equally the duty of women.”* Islam had made it obligation on the part of women to acquire knowledge but within the purview of *Shariat*.

There is no text in the Quran or Sunnah which makes it unlawful for women to work or to do any professional job provided it is within the modesty level and within the purview of *Shariat*. The best example of working women is that of Hazrat Khatija(RA) first wife of Prophet Mohammad(PBUH). She was a trade women. She worked within the parameters of *Shariat*. Hazrat Ashiya(RA) the daughter of Abu-Bakar(RA) and wife of Prophet Muhammad(PBUH) was a woman of notable intelligence and had a very sharp memory.

The most perfect man of religion is one who excels in character. *“The best among us is he who gives best treatment to women folk and treats women well, for they had been created from his rib”*. They must therefore be respected in all the spheres of life. Every male Muslim must bear in mind that he will be accountable to Allah for the treatment he gave to his life partner in his transitory world.

The Jasmine of purity

Hazrat Fatima(RA)

By: Toibah Akthar (Aalima 1st)

In the history of islam, for every group of society there is a suitable role model who is the guiding light for salvation and on the path to perfection. The role model for women, as declared by Prophet(PBUH) is Hazrat Fatima(RA) as rightly said by noble Prophet(PBUH): “ *Fatima is the best of all the women of the world (Sayyidatt-un-Nisa Al-Aalemeen)*”

At a time when people buried their daughters alive, by kissing Hazrat Fatima’s(RA)hand and by praising her virtues, the Prophet of Islam (PBUH) firmly established the value of woman in the Islamic society. This Fatima (RA) is the role model of all women of the world; her greatness is not limited to any particular time period or location. As stated by the Prophet of Islam (PBUH), “*Fatima (RA) is the best of woman ever, from the beginning of time, upto its end.*”

If we study the history of mankind, we find that certain people have been looked upon as exemplars for certain qualities that they have perfected. But Hazrat Fatima(RA) is a role model for every one, in all aspects-be it ethics, spirituality or Gnosticism. The level of her knowledge was high. From the spiritual aspect too, she was very detached from worldly distractions and was praised by Allah and his prophet (PBUH). She prayed a lot and used to tremble and shed tears of awe and love during her worship.

Hazrat Fatima (RA) was a multi dimensional human being, a brave warrior in the way of Islam, a knowledgeable lady who at the same time played her role as a housewife, affectionate wife and mother to perfection. Her life was very simple and she had very frugal needs or expectations.

Hazrat Fatima (RA) proved that like men, a women too, could reach the most sublime levels of ethics and worship on the mystical path.

The very existence of Hazrat Fatima (RA) along with her skills of eloquence, her political and social expertise and powerful foresight, demonstrates how a muslim women can attain high spiritual and mystical positions at a young age.

Hazrat Fatma(RA) was a very knowledgeable person, a fact that was acknowledged by friends and foes alike. Her sermons and sayings are evidence of her intellectual, strength of character and nobility of mind. She was an embodiment of all virtues of womanhood. She was an exemplary daughter, a loving and supportive wife, a caring mother and a powerful and aware member of society.

Hazrat Fatima(RA) inherited the genius, wisdom, determination, willpower, piety, patience, knowledge and nobility from her illustrious father, both in words and deeds. Her generosity and compassion for the poor was such that no destitute or beggar ever returned from her door unattended.

Thus, we can see how in a short span of her life, this grand lady demonstrated how a women can play different roles powerfully and positively influence the course of history by her social contribution. We must all try to follow in the foot steps of Hazrat Fatima(RA) and should try to learn from her piety and knowledge to only a few but has made it available for all seekers. Also, each and every individual can attain to the high degree of piety, a quality that is again not limited to the elite.

Prayer is Power

By: Irshada Ahad(Aalima 1st)

Prayer is the most powerful form of energy, that one can produce. If you pray sincerely every day, you feel a steady flow of continuous power in your daily life.

All of us pray in different ways, some people go to their places of worship and offer prayers, as all believe that God is present every where. People believe that prayer produce derived effect. This has been proved in some rare cases in the medical field where patients have been cured, through the medical treatment had failed to produce the described effect.

Properly understood, prayer is an activity indispensable for the fullest development of one's personality. Only in prayer we achieve complete harmony of body, mind and spirit that gives the frail human body unshakable strength.

How does prayer fortify us with so much dynamic power? Human beings seek to increase their limited energy by turning themselves to unlimited source of energy. When we pray, we connect ourselves with the inexhaustible power that spins the universe. We then arise and feel morally strengthened and physically brightened up.

In order to mould our personality fully, the prayer must become a regular habit. One can pray anywhere, in the Mosque, in the street, in the office, in the school or college, alone in one's own room as well. True prayer is a way of life in fact the true life is literally a way of prayer.

Islam

The True Religion

By: Aabida Mansoor (Lecturer, Jamia-Tul-Banat)

“O you who believe! Enter into Islam whole heartedly or perfectly. (by obeying all the rules and regulations of the Islamic religion) and do not follow the footsteps of Satan or evil one verily he is your open enemy. Then if you stumble inspite of the clear instructions which have come to you, then know well that Allah Is All-Mighty, All-wise.”

These lines are those in which Allah asks us not to be hesitant in practising Islam. Allah demands that man should submit, the whole of his being to His will. Human intellectual pursuits, behaviour, interaction with other people and modes of hardship should all be completely subordinate to Islam. Allah reminds us that *Satan* is an open enemy of a human being and warns us not to follow footsteps of *Satan*. Satan has asked for a respite from Allah till doomsday that he will deviate human beings from following the right path. It is infact a challenge for us that whether we can stand firm on the path of Islam or we just allow *Satan* to succeed in his challenge. Allah has given us the way to protect ourselves from *Satan*'s deceptions in the form of Islam.

Islam has been derived from the root ward “SLM” which means peace. it also means submitting one’s will to Allah. Thus Islam is a religion of peace which is acquired by submitting one’s will to the will of the supreme creator Allah. The Quran declares Islam as the only acceptable way to Allah.

Allah says in chapter 3 verse No. 19

“The religion before Allah is only Islam” (3:19)

And the way other than Islam is not acceptable.

Allah says in Quran in chapter 3 verse no. 85

“And who ever desires or seeks a way other than Islam (Submission to Allah), it shall not be accepted of him and he shall be among the losers in the hereafter” (3:85)

Allah does not accept that people should consider their worldly affairs and religious duties as two separate things but as one. No one can be a Muslim unless he fulfils his duty to Allah as well as his duty to His creatures. He has been granted a limited freedom to live his individual and collective life, according to his choice. If he chooses to follow the way of Islam and surrenders his will before the will of Allah, he becomes a true Muslim. Islam provides every thing that a human being as an individual and as a member of society can ever need. It lays down rules not only for devotion and form of worship but also for their mutual relationship, marriage and divorce, what to eat and what to drink. Even when Muslims are defending themselves in a battle they are not allowed to fight to any one, except those who are with the arms against them, women, children, old man can’t be harmed. Islam declares human life to be precious object on earth.

Allah says in Quran chapter 5 verse 32.

“If any one slays a human being, unless it be for murder or for spreading corruption on earth, it is as if he slew the whole mankind and whoever saved a person it is as if he saved whole mankind.”(5:32)

A Muslim is not allowed to use force or violent means to achieve his objective. Even in the state of war Islam teaches us that trees can't be cut, crops can't be burnt and unnecessary destruction can't be caused.

Anas (RA) reports that the Prophet (PBUH) had said:

“By Allah in whose hand is my life no one can be a true believer unless he likes for his Muslim brother, what he likes for himself”.

Islam declares that all humans are born equal and no race, colour, language, nationality but God-consciousness can place one person above other.

Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) had said:

“An Arab has no superiority to a non-Arab, nor a non Arab any superiority to an Arab. Similarly a white man is in no way superior to a black man nor is the black man superior to a white man except by virtue of God-consciousness.”

He(PBUH) also said:

“All of you come from Adam & Adam came from clay.”

Islam declared the whole creation as the family of Allah Prophet (PBUH) had said:

“Be kind to those on earth, Allah above shall be kind to you”.

So if Islam is the ultimate way to achieve peace, then why Muslims round the globe are suffering. The Muslim *Ummah* has been passing through the continuous process of degeneration for centuries now. The reason is that although we enter the fold of Islam, we do not follow its teachings in their true spirit. The Muslims are themselves responsible for the sorry state of the affairs in which they have been finding themselves for hundreds of years. They have turned their faces away from the teachings of the Holy Quran and the Sunnah of the Prophet (PBUH). They continue to live according to un-Islamic ways. They are blindly following as is against

the spirit of Islam. The majority of the Muslims are Muslims, just in name. Their deeds are similar to those of non-Muslims. They have forgotten the universal message of Islam, which they are under obligation to spread across the globe. The fact is that they are themselves deviated, how can they guide others to salvation?

Morality in Islam

By : Farhana Mustaq (Class Alma 2nd)

The word Islam is derived from the Arabic root “SLM” which means, among other things, peace, purity and obedience. In the religious sense the word Islam means submission to the will of Allah..... the creator of heavens and earth. By obedience to his law we all can achieve peace and enjoy lasting purity.

Islam demands firm belief and is against blind imitations. Islam is a religion of faith, righteousness, Taqwa, freedom, equality, peace and above all morality. What morality means in Islam? It means honesty, simplicity, perfection, purity and so on.

The concept of morality in Islam has wide dimensions and is so inclusive and integrative that it combines at once faith in Almighty. Morality is an element of a complete religious super system and Islamic morals are unique in their nature under all circumstances. It centres around certain basic beliefs and principles. The few I will mention here:

1. Allah is the creator and source of all goodness, truth and beauty.
2. All things are permissible but what is singled out as compulsory, we must observe it and what is singled out as forbidden we must definitely avoid it.
3. Man’s ultimate responsibility is the pleasure and obedience of Almighty.

The Islamic morals deal with a relationship between man and Allah, man and his fellowmen, man and the other elements and creatures of the universe, man and his innermost self. The Muslim has to guard his external behaviour and his manifested deeds, his words and his thoughts, his feelings and intentions. In a general sense, his role is to champion what is right and fight what is wrong, seek what is true and abandon what is false, cherish

what is beautiful and wholesome and avoid what is indecent. The high level morality will undoubtedly, nourish and make strong morality and the human level.

More specially the Muslims relationship with Allah is one of love and obedience, complete truth and thoughtfulness, peace and appreciation, steadfastness and active service. Let me tell you, we must respect the reasonable rights of others as much as he does his own. That is what Morality means, our mind must be occupied with constructive ideas, our heart beat with pity feelings and good will, above all our soul must radiate with peace and calmness.

The Muslim moral obligation is a clear example of honesty and perfection by all possible means. The morals of Islam are designed to build in the human beings a sound mind, a peaceful soul, a strong personality and a healthy body. Such a beautiful and eminent relationship exists between morality and Islam.

Women and Modernization

By: Mir Munira Akther(Fazila 1st)

- The thought for her never were deep,
superior the man she was cheap.
- Just as a game anyone can win,
not the human but an idol of sin.
- She was placed at lowest place,
to fulfill the desires of human race.
- A fragrant flower grew in Arabic sand,
and gave her a touch of magic wand.
- She was great honour and all the rights.
Islam showed her morning, forgetting the night.
- But the degradation with modernity began to exist.
And women took off clothes to look the best.
- She thinks to become the woman of century,
But losing all her respect and dignity.

- Does anyone think who I am?
After getting everything I forgot Islam.

Power of literate Housewife

By: Nayeema Nabi (Aalima 1st)

Literacy is the “keyword” for attaining progress in any sphere or situation and therefore it is vital for every one especially women to be educated. A housewife is more than an individual. She is actually an institution. She has to play a variety of roles and successfully run the household, the family and fulfill other responsibilities. She must be literate. Indeed her role is getting more and more complex and she has to face newer challenges every day. More so in today’s scenario, when technological advancements are moving at a greater speed and the awareness level of the present generation is sky high, she shall find it difficult even to communicate if she is not educated and well aware of the happenings around her. A housewife must not only be educated but it is also mandatory for her to have functional literacy to manage, interact and understand complexities of modern life.

An educated housewife can provide a better quality of life to her family. She can make better use of the family resources. She can manage health, disease immunization and growth programme of the family and herself in a better and skillful manner. Rest of the family can relax while so many odd jobs can be taken easily by her.

An educated housewife can have better view of things regarding family related matters. Her suggestions and guidance are more valuable. She has better crisis management skills. An educated

housewife can have better understanding within the family. As an educated mother, she can provide tuition and solve many problems of children. A housewife who is well educated and self-sufficient feel secure and comfortable.

An educated housewife can skillfully make use of her spare time, as it is she who has better time management skills. At the end, “the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world”, but that kind of empowerment only education can provide.