

Duties of s Wife

They consist of the following:

1. Manage the household
2. Care and train the children.
3. Live a frugal and simple life, and avoid making excessive financial demands.
4. Nurse the newborn for two years although she can take a fee for that.
5. Help the husband in living a righteous Islamic way of life.
6. Should not boast of her looks and beauty.
7. Cover her body and hide her beautification except before her husband and her immediate relatives (محرم)
8. Perform her duties towards her husband and take proper care of his goods and property in his absence.
9. Give respect to the husband, even more than to one's own parents.
10. Should not be rude to the husband; in fact should follow what he says.

Hadees:

The prophet⁽¹⁾ of Allah has stated, "If anyone besides Allah could be worshipped, I would have asked the wife to worship her husband."



Hadees – Abu Dawood:

“Let me tell you the best thing a person can have; a good wife, one who keeps her husband happy and listens to him, remains chaste, and takes care of his belongings in his absence.”

Hadees – Velmi Masnad:

”A woman’s work for her husband’s welfare is as good a virtue as giving charity (for Allah’s sake)”

Hadees – Hakim:

“A man should care most for his mother and a woman for her husband.”

Hadees – Masnad-e-Ahmed:

When asked about the qualities of a good woman, the prophet⁽¹⁾ of Allah replied “The one who greets her husband in such a way that he is happy when he sees her, who listens to what he says, specially in matters of money and sex”.

22.1 Rights Of The Wife

The following are the rights of the wife:

- Insist on being treated affectionately by the husband
- Demand that the husband provide adequate food, boarding, lodging and other necessities of life.
- Ask the husband to trust her.
- Not let the ownership of her own property and wealth be compromised.



Divorce initiated by Husband or Wife

If a couple doesn't get along at all and cannot be reconciled inspite of the best efforts of relatives and well wishers, breaking the marriage bond is the only alternative; otherwise the life of the family becomes miserable and sexual impulses may be channeled into immoral, illegal and destructive avenues.

The husband can divorce the wife by making the pronouncement of divorce once a month, for three months. After the first or second pronouncements the couple can get back together, if they so desire, but after the third pronouncement final irrevocable divorce takes place. The couple cannot be remarried again except in the condition that the divorced woman marries some one else and she is later rendered single by the husband's death or divorce.

The wife can also perform divorce in a similar manner, however she (or her guardian) needs to write this clause in the marriage contract (نكاح تامه).

Even if this clause is absent she can still get divorce by asking the husband to pronounce it or failing that she can approach the court (usually special family courts)) to grant her divorce (خلع) from her husband.

The marriage gift or money (مهر) of a woman should be paid before the first sexual union, however if both mutually agree for later payment, it should definitely be paid at the time of divorce, if it has not been paid before that. In the divorce initiated by the wife she has to pay back the marriage gift or money she has received.

Quran – Surah Baqara – Ayat 233:

“The mothers should suckle their babies for a period of two years for those (fathers) who wish that they should complete the suckling, in which case they should feed them and clothe them in a befitting way; but no soul, should be



compelled beyond capacity, neither the mother made to suffer for the child, nor the father for his off-spring. The same holds good for the heir of the father (if he dies). If they wish to wean the child by mutual consent there is no harm. - - - - - “

Quran – Surah Talaq – Ayat 6 & 7:

“Let the (divorced) women live in your own home, and provide for them as much as you can afford; do not harass them or make them suffer. If they are pregnant, then provide the necessities for them until they give birth to the child. And if they suckle your child then pay them properly, and consult each other (in all matters). However, if this is difficult to accomplish, get some other women to breast-feed (the child).”

Hadees – Muslim:

“The revered Sabir⁽²⁾ reported that the prophet⁽¹⁾ of Allah said during the sermon of his last pilgrimage to Mecca “Women are in your custody so be careful as Allah will take you to account (for misbehaving towards them). Allah has given them to you in trust and it is with HIS permission that you have intercourse with them. Take care of their needs of food and clothing according to your financial condition.

Wives are duty bound not to have sex with anyone else, nay not even to let a person you dislike into the house. If they disobey then you can punish them but not so hard that the bones are injured.

Hadees – Muslim and Bukhari:

The revered Ayesha⁽²⁾ reported that Hinda d/o Utba said to the prophet⁽¹⁾ of Allah “My husband, the revered Abu Sufian⁽²⁾, doesn’t give enough money to adequately fulfill the needs of myself and my children. Will I be right if I take some of his money without his knowledge?” He⁽¹⁾ replied, “Yes, you can take some, but only enough to fulfill your needs and those of your children, according to the standard that is usual in your family”



Hadees – Muslim:

The revered Jabir⁽²⁾ s/o Samra reported the prophet⁽¹⁾ of Allah as saying, “If Allah gives you money then spend it first on yourself and your family.”

Hadees – Bukhari:-

The revered Saade⁽²⁾ s/o. Abu Waqas has reported the prophet⁽¹⁾ as saying, “Whatever you spend on your family is akin to charity for Allah, even the morsel given to your wife.”

Alamgiri & Dar Mukhtar:

1. “If a wife cannot cook, because she is sick and weak, or has not learned to do so in her parents’ home, then the husband must provide a servant for this work or get cooked food from outside. However if the above conditions don’t apply then the husband is not obliged to provide food from outside.

If the wife cooks the food at home she cannot demand payment.”

2. “The husband is duly bound to provide separate accommodation to a wife who doesn’t want to share the house with the other wives or in-laws specially, if she is harassed by them.

If the husband can afford it he should get a separate house, if not a separate room or a portion of the house is sufficient.”

3. The wife is allowed to visit her parents at least once a week, and similarly the parents can visit once a week. However the parents must obtain the husband’s permission for visiting at night.



4. Immediate relatives (أقرباء), other than parents, can visit at least once a year, and the wife can also visit their homes once in a year, but she cannot stay for the night except with her husband's permission.

However the parents and other immediate relatives (أقرباء) have the right to come and have a look as and when they desire.

5. "The maintenance of a person is incumbent on both sons and daughters."
6. "If a person is poor and unable to provide for himself and his young dependent children then their maintenance is the responsibility of elder sons if they is wealthy."
7. "The wealthy brother of a woman is responsible for providing financial help if the husband is very poor. However, the brother can ask for the repayment of the money if the husband can afford it at some later date."

Hadees – Imam Ahmed & Abu Dawood:

The revered Abdullah⁽²⁾ S/o revered Umer⁽²⁾ reported that a woman said to the prophet⁽¹⁾ of Allah: "This is my son. I carried him in my womb, and fed him milk from my breasts, and cared for him in my lap. His father has divorced me and now wants to take away my son too."

The prophet⁽¹⁾ answered, "You have the right to keep him until and unless you get married again."

Hadees – Tibrani:

1. "Allah does not like those men and women who indulge in too many liaisons (marriages) with the opposite sex.
2. "Allah has cursed every person who indulges in frequent marriage and divorce just for sexual pleasure."

(1) May Allah bless with eternal peace

(2) May Allah be Pleased

