

Human Rights in Islam

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Human Rights in Islam – The Grand Muftee of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia – Shaykh 'Abdul-'Azeez Ibn 'Abdullaah aalush-Shaykh – expounds upon human rights as guaranteed to mankind by Allaah in Islaam. These include, the right to life, women's rights, rights of the family and others. He explains the grave dangers of oppressing people and killing unjustly. In conclusion, he clarifies the state of those who claim to support human rights, but oppress others in the process – oppression and transgression in the name of human rights!

On Human Rights in Islam:

“He produced from this human race Prophets and Messengers who were sent for the guidance and success of mankind in their worldly lives and in their Hereafter. Indeed, Islam is concerned with the human being with a fully sanctioned concern. So the prescribed laws (Sharī'ah) of Allaah have come to purify the servant (i.e. the human being) and they have come for his success in his worldly life and in his Hereafter. So what are the acts of worship, except a refinement for the soul, purification for it and an education for it upon correct manners and higher ideals?”

Islam has Emancipated Mankind from the Worst Form of Slavery:

“So the greatest blessing from Allaah upon him is that Islam has liberated man from the slavery, the disgrace and the degradation of Shirk (associating others with Allah in worship).”

On Equality in Islam:

“O people! Indeed, your Lord is one and your father (i.e. Adam) is one. A non-Arab is no better than an Arab, nor is an Arab any better than a non-Arab. And there is no excellence for a black person over a white one, nor is there any excellence for a white person over a black one, except due to Taqwaa (righteousness). The Religion of Islam has preserved human rights in truth; it has preserved them in all aspects of life.”

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The Right to Life in Islam:

“And from Islam’s concern for mankind is that it has made aggression unlawful upon him. So Islam affirms his right to life and it affirms that life is a right for him. No one is allowed to take a life, except for the One who granted it (i.e. Allah), and He is capable of all things.”

On Women’s Rights in Islam:

“It has liberated her from those who seek to oppress her, whether they do it by depriving her of her rights, or by trying to deprive her of her Religion and sense of honour. Islam has safeguarded her honour and protected her nobility. So Islam respects the woman as a mother, a wife, a daughter and a sister.”

On Rights of the Family:

“So it gave the parents their rights, and the wife her rights and the husband his rights and to the children their rights. And in Islam the neighbours have rights. And Islam has concern for the neighbours, concern for the relatives and the close companions.”

True Human Rights are in Islam:

“The rights are not a favour granted by human beings. Rather, they are from the favour of Allah. There are rights within Islam that mankind in general deserves, rights with regards to politics, economics, education and societal rights. These rights have been affirmed by Islam and they do not change, because they have been issued by the Sharee’ah of Islam.”

“And if the Muslims were to ponder carefully upon the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of His Prophet, they would surely see that the truth and justice is within these two – always and forever.”