Translation
National Anthem of Pakistan

Blessed be the sacred land
Happy be the bounteous realm
Symbol of high resolve
Land of Pakistan!
Blessed be thou, citadel of faith
The order of this sacred land
Is the might of the brotherhood of the people
May the nation, the country, and the state
Shine in glory everlasting!
Blessed be the goal of our ambition
This flag of the crescent and star
Leads the way to progress and perfection
Interpreter of our past, glory of our present
Inspiration of our future!
Symbol of God, owner of glory and might

Lyrics: Hafeez Jullundhri
Hazrat Zainab (R.A), the daughter of Hazrat Ali (R.A) and Hazrat Fatima (R.A), was an exemplary woman of great ability, intelligence, knowledge, insight, courage and perseverance; she performed her divine duties to the best of her ability. She was born to a family formed by the Prophet (S.A.W), the most outstanding figure in history. Hazrat Zainab (R.A) is the shining sun in the history of Islam and of humanity. Her brother's name and Karbala associate the idea of freedom, justice, humanity, virtue, fighting against despotism, with the realization of the sovereignty of Allah. The history of Karbala is based on two pillars: the rising of Hazrat Imam Hussain (R.A) and the rising of Hazrat Zainab (R.A). She was an outstanding figure in the history of Karbala endowed with divine steadfastness and fortitude. She sacrificed her two sons and one should not say anything if one devoted his life for the cause of Allah. After the martyrdom of her brother and her two sons, she said: "O my Lord! Accept our humble sacrifice to You." The Muslim women should read more about the hardships which faced the great women of Islam understand and practice the patience that characterized the life of Hazrat Zainab (R.A), and teach their children the value of these acts. The men alone cannot win independence and prosperity, neither can the women. Together, and under the banner of Islam, they can achieve success.

Slogan Competition

In September 2013 Slogan Competition activity was arranged with the collaboration of Aurat Foundation and Department of Gender Studies, BZU Multan. According to proposal, students from all classes of gender studies were invited to participate in the activity. Students designed different paintings consisting of slogans with some Art design. Selection committee examined all entries and made recommendation for suitable entries to give the final award. In the end, award distribution ceremony was held, chairperson Department of Gender Studies, BZU Multan distributed the prizes among the winners.
The Department of Gender Studies has regulated its academic activities according to the advised schedule of the project ‘Gender based violence and strengthening the capacity of Gender Studies Department by adding to the body of knowledge,’ under the USAID & Aurat Foundation. Faculty of Social sciences participated in this event and shared the experiences with the community’s members i.e. students, faculty and representatives of different social sector organizations.

Prof. Dr. Azra Asghar Ali said that this project proved to be fruitful for the students by the experiences of field visits to South Punjab areas where women are facing problems due to cultural rigid patterns and its effect on their lives. Dean of Social sciences Dr. Ayaz Rana was also invited as a guest of honor and he appreciated Dr.Azra Asghar Ali’s abilities of completing this project timely and efficiently. On ending Mr. Kamran Ishfaq gave a brief overview of all project activities.
In December 2013, International Seminar and Workshop with theme “From Women History to Gender History: Fitting Women into the Historical Jigsaw Puzzle” was held with the collaboration of Royal Holloway College, University of London and Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan. Main purpose behind this activity was to aware the participants how the concept of women history concept convert to the Gender history. 2nd day was a workshop in which different topics were discussed including Scaling and measurement, Challenging of Subaltern Studies etc. At the end, the worthy Vice Chancellor of BZU, Multan addressed and appreciated all activities during the seminar and workshop.

Sports Gala

For the very first time a Sports Gala was organized in December, 2013 in which a four day cricket match took place among all the classes with the girls supporting their male class fellows. It was a great attainment to successfully hold such a mega event in which the faculty and students contribution made excellent. Admirable moments of discipline could not be expressed in words. Chairperson Department of Gender Studies appreciated the efforts made by the organizing members by whom the event became successful. She said and hoped that this exercise would continue so that the students might get more chances and could reflect physical and mental fitness in their practical lives.
Veil
A Religious Obligation

Every woman is liable of veil as soon as she enters the premises of Islamic castle. Women always had a great impact in the societies but whenever a society denied her importance it always lead them to devastation.

Islam never divested rights of women. Before advent of Islam women were always considered as an ill-omened creature. Even they used to bury their own neonate daughters, wives were harshly beaten, step mothers became the legacy of the eldest son and the sisters were given as a compensation for any sin of her family. Excruciating women was a common practice without fear of being penalized. Contrarily Islam venerated the women. They started enjoying equal rights.

Veil is of much importance for women. Here I will throw light on some merits of veil. Firstly it is comfortable for women to work, in an environment where they have to work in parallel with men, if they are shielded in veil. Secondly veil boosts up the confidence of women. Thirdly veil is a symbol of a sanctimonious Muslim woman and it reflects the fact that she has grown up in an estimable family.

So, I will conclude by saying that our nation should prioritize veiling culture as Reem Ossama, an Egyptian mother of three who covers her head when she leaves her home says, “It’s something that you love to do because it makes you feel that you are closer to Allah, that you’re doing the right thing.”

Tatheer Zahara
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Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI) implemented a project named as “Promoting Public Accountability through Right to Information” in various districts of Punjab including Multan. As per project activity RTI Stall was organized in BZU, Department of Gender Studies on 30 September 2014, in which many students and teachers of the department visited and gained knowledge about the Right to Information Act 2013. During the Activity, District Coordinator CPDI Syed Raza Ali shared the objectives of the Stall and briefed them about RTI law and procedure to file requests of RTI. RTI Act was enacted on 16th December 2013; but unfortunately mostly people are unaware about this effective law. There is need to promote this law to every citizen of Punjab such as Civil Society, Political Parties, Elected representatives, Public officials and Journalists.
Women of Pakistan in 2014

The day Quaid-e-Azam thought of a separate state, the day Chaudhary Rehmat Ali created the name Pakistan, and all the greatest leaders we had in the making of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, they all never thought the Pakistani daughter of Hawa in 2014 will be burnt alive on the birth of a daughter, will be burnt in kitchen due to shortage of dowry, will be killed on the name of honor, will be raped by a gang, will be faced acid attacks on faces, will be faced all types of harassment on the roads. Yes this is what is happening in our Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

When it all comes to my mind I usually asked a question to myself that who is responsible for all this while there are fundamental rights in the constitution of Pakistan, Pakistan has signed many declarations, conventions like Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women’s, United Nation Declaration Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity & made Legislation internationally and nationally for the rights of women. The making of laws and signing on conventions is not the only duty of the state, rather it includes to providing justice and access to justice for women at least the affected women.

Here is need to change our thoughts of male dominancy and give the status and respect to the women given by Islam and provided by the constitution of Pakistan. “I’m a feminist because what men fear most about going to prison is what Women fear most walking down the sidewalk.”

Issues of Jobian Ladies

Now a days, women have started jobs in different fields. Today she is doing job as doctor, engineer, manager etc. We can see women as politician & business woman too. In short today she is changing her position. She is considered as a helping hand. In fact today the demand of in-laws i.e. also a working or qualified girl.

Females are stepping forward and joining every field. It is a positive sign that our society is accepting her outside the home. And we are moving towards equality. But always the picture depicts two aspects of one story. Just like this, the other aspect is not pleasing as it. The working woman is facing a lot of problems at workplace. The major one is sexual harassment. She faces it in every field whether she is teaching or learning, employ or employee etc. There is law against harassment but in our society, every woman is not enough courageous to make RIT against that person. And if she does so, she faces threats too.

A lot of organizations and institutes arrange awareness programs for women to make them aware about harassment laws and laws of it. There should be awareness programs to make the women strong, bold and courageous. But the most important is that there should be counseling programs for males too, as he is the harasser and he is performing these acts. Programs should be to make him realize that his sister or wife can also face this. By counseling and awareness programs situation can get better.

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