DEPARTMENT OF ISLAMIC STUDIES, GDC PAMPORE ORGANIZES 5-DAY WEB SERIES ON "CONTEMPORARY DISCOURSE ON WOMEN"

The Department of Islamic Studies, Government Degree College Pampore in collaboration with Women Development Cell, GDC Pampore, organized a 5-Day Web Series on the theme "Contemporary Discourse on Women" w.e.f 23rd of August to 27th of August 2021. The program was coordinated by Dr. Shaista Rasool who apprised the audience about the



background of the series and its importance in disposal of myths about women in both the text and the context within Muslim societies. Esteemed Principal Dr. Seema Naz welcomed the guest speakers and participants and gave a context to need for organizing this Web Series and the questions revolving around women and Islam. She discussed how social, cultural and religious traditions have undermined the place of women not only in Kashmir but in whole world. It is surely Islam that emancipated the women and shaped a positive space for socioeconomic and intellectual engagement of women in Islamic societies.

Day 1: "Status and Rights of Women in Islam"

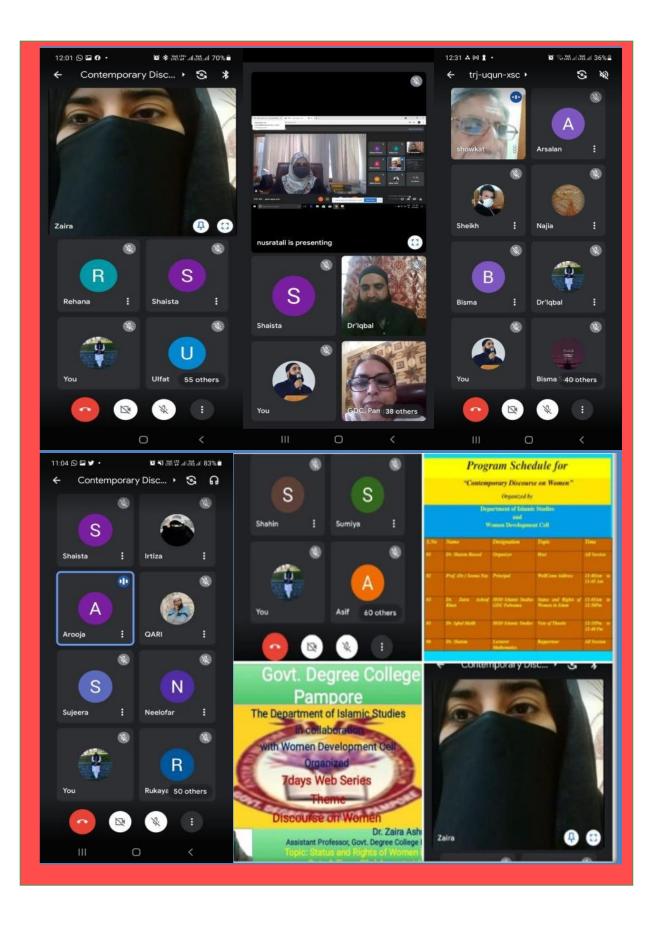
On the very first day i.e. 23^{rd} August 2021, Dr. Zaira Ashraf, Assistant Professor, Department of Islamic Studies, Government Degree College Pulwama delivered an online talk on the topic "Status and Rights of Women in Islam". The session was attended by 59 partcipants. The speaker, Dr. Zaira deliberated on how dual- Jahaliyyah, both of early Islamic society and the modern world have degraded the status of women and it is only the Prophetic normative framework and its implementation, by which the regeneration of women rights is possible. She also highlighted the complementarity of genders. A special mention of the different rights of women given to them by Islam was made by the speaker. She affirmed that the only course of action that will ensure progress and success for the Muslim community is to follow Quran and the footsteps of Prophet Muhammad (SAAS) with all the strength.

Day 2nd: Legal Rights of Women with special focus on Prevention of Domestic Violence and Dowry Deaths

On day two i.e. 24th August, 2021, Miss Nusrat Ali Hakak, Joint Registrar, High Court Wing Srinagar delivered an online lecture on the theme, "*Legal Rights of Women with special focus on Prevention of Domestic Violence and Dowry Deaths*". Almost 42 partcipants attended the session. The worthy speaker debated about the advocacy techniques, Muslim legal traditions and their impact on women's rights, traditional customs and practices and their impact on women's rights and women's rights to development. This diverse session gave rise to recommendations on how to protect and promote women's human rights using legal means. The worthy speaker highlights the provisions under the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) which have direct relevance to the rights, equality, liberty, and justice of women folk in the state. She talked about Rights of Women under Section 22, Section 25, and Domestic Violence act also.

Day 3: "Women in Kashmir: Obstacles to her Rights and Possible Solutions"

On day 3rd, 25th of August, 2021, the worthy Speaker, Prof. Sheikh Showkat Hussain (Dean School oflegal Studies, Central University of Kashmir delivered an online speech on the theme, "Women in Kashmir: Obstacles to her Rights and Possible Solutions". The lecture was attended by 46 partcipants. The worthy speaker started off with the diverse narratives revolving around women within Muslim societies with special reference to Kashmir valley. He informed that 40% ofwomen in Kashmir are physically or mentally abused by the husbands or by the in-laws. In most of the cases of domestic violence, the reasons are dowry, interference from in-laws, misunderstandings, giving birth to female babies all of which result in steep rise of the number of domestic violence cases in Kashmir. The worthy speaker maintained that awareness programs should be launched to educatemen as well as women



about the rights of women. He further maintained that empowering women and raising awareness of women and men on women's rights contributes to limiting the power of gender stereotypes.

Day 4: Debate "Women Empowerment with Special Reference to Women Leadership (An Islamic Perspective)"

On day four, i.e. 26th August 2021, a debate was organized on the topic "Women Empowerment with Special Reference to Women Leadership (An Islamic Perspective)" wherein a large number of students participated. Sakeena Nisar, Mir Tazim and Haroon Rashid won first, second and 3rd position, respectively.

Day 5: Naat/Qirat Competition

On day five, 27th August 2021, Qirat/Naat competition was organized wherein more than 60 students from different colleges and *Madaris* of the valley participated. Both the events were monitored by the Juries. In the Qirat competition, Muhammad Saleem bagged Ist position, Irtiza Shabir, the second, and the third position was given to two candidates Jahangir Ahmad and Farheena Mushtaq. In the Naat competition, Rifat Rafeeq got Ist position, Umer Rashid Peer got 2nd and Irfan Ahmad got third position.

Concluding Session:

Dr Iqbal Malik offered his worthy remarks and deliberated on the ingrained notion of women rights in Islam and its role in discarding the misinformation and misinterpretation about the place of women in Islam. The 5-Day Web Series was wrapped up with the vote of thanks by Dr. Iqbal Malik, HOD Islamic Studies, to academicians, guests, students and scholars for participating in the event.

Report Submitted
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