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How has the Pahlavi Dynasty and the Iranian Revolution created the veil to cause conceptual division between Iranian women and liberty distortion in Iranian society?

The veil, a demonstration that one is following the Islam religion. During the Pahlavi Dynasty there have been women who wore the veil and others whom had the veil nonexistent, showing their hair for the first time in Iranian history. After the Pahlavi Dynasty came the Islamic Revolution which brought the veil as an essential means. Why is this veil so important? Can't women just feel or do things that they please (rationally, of course).

First one must understand where the veil came from. If one does not comprehend the meaning, symbol, and history of it one cannot move forward in understanding why the veil has impacted the Iranian society. The veil or *hijab* means barrier or partition. In the Qur'an what is described is the veil or *hijab* usage. Men and women have to be covered or veiled. Yes men had been veiled too, just like the women are veiled. People across Iran especially the male population would be criticizing and creating a scandal that if women do not wear a veil they should be arrested or other means of punishment. This criticism is a whole issue but worth revealing. Women are told exactly what to cover and to whom they may uncover themselves. Women cover their beauty. Their beauty can be any part of the body. The most basic one is both sex must cover their body passed the cervical region. That means the thoracic region, abdominal region, pelvic region, and everything inferior to the pelvic region. Not only it describes the region the body should be covered but as well the Qur'an indicates to whom women should be veiled and unveiled to. Women are to be covered if they see a man, any kind of man, as non-muslims (this

is still a debate as we speak). Women can be uncovered to their husbands, brothers, servants, and family. Woman cannot wear just any kind of veil. For instance silk veils. The elderly woman have the ability to not wear a veil if they choose not too. The Qur'an says that if Allah is very merciful and forgiving, even if the veil is not used. This is a sense of the meaning of the veil and its rules for both sexes.

Moving forward a new era begins after the fall of the Qajar Dynasty (1925) called the Pahlavi Dynasty (1925-1979) the highest point in freedom for women. The Shah or king, Reza Shah, was on the side of modernization and so much occurred for everyone, especially the women. For the first time women had the ability to go outside without their veils on. The government instituted a law that made every single woman not wear the veil no more. This law was enforced with military men making sure that women outside had no veil on. Women were relieved to not wear the veil, but yet there were some women that felt the need to keep it on, if they did not wear the woman would get the sensation of being naked, later these women would cause a reversal of their rights. If one were veiled they cannot receive a paycheck or the husband because the wife must not be veiled in order to receive a paycheck. Modernization took place during this era in Iran. Women were forced to wear the veil and a lot of women enjoyed it as mentioned. However there was a division witnessed. Women who liked the veil and woman who disliked the veil and wanted westernization. This later comes to affect women in 1979 and forward, the Iranian Revolution.

The Iranian Revolution took place in 1979, the women and men that opposed the new laws and modernization from the Shah that was occurring had started to take action and commence protests, riots, etc. The whole revolution took the Shah out of power and instituted a

new ruling power, the Islamic State (1979-present day). The new government in Iran had completely changed the lifestyle of women, not more prosperous or liberty. The women in Iran were back how they started, in terms of rights, how it was in the Qatar Dynasty. Women cannot go outside without a veil on. Even if they did the police would say to put on the veil, forcibly. Privileged women were the ones able to grab an education. Men as always could get an education anytime if able to afford it. The whole country became segregated, schools were made for men or women only not both, there would be buses that had men only or women only (there are buses with both sexes but women cannot sit in the front only in the back because if they sit in the front it distracts the driver), and much more. Marital status played a key role in the new society of Iran. If women weren't married then they cannot do much, go outside or actually have a job. If a women were married then they can work, sit in front of the bus only with their husband, and go outside (only with husband though). If divorced it was seen as disgusting and a man would not want to marry a divorced woman. In the household it was the same as always, they were the ones responsible of everything and man the money maker. Currently this is how women are living in Iran, a reduction of their freedom and some rights only if married, other than that women are inferior.

Now the division is between the feminist women. Here the women split into two groups feminist women veiled and the woman unveiled. The woman both had similar beliefs just that one side believed should be kept and the other the veil should one's decision, not forced to wear a veil. The woman that would wear a veil would be called activist and welcomed to the Iranian society, but for the other side they would be called rebels. In the Qur'an it does not say it is a sin or not to wear a veil. Nothing is mentioned just the usage of a hijab. Just because everyone uses

it does not mean one has to be sheep and follow it. Now as mentioned the political system of Iran under the Pahlavi and Islamic Revolution had their own thoughts of the veil, one for westernization and the other for traditionalism. Both regimes enforced the veil to be used or non used, not a mixture of the two. Yet here comes the veil once more. Since this is the root to such distortion in society and split between the women's feminist group.

What must occur is to have all this chaos reduced because of the veil, is to come to an agreement to the Qur'an. The Qur'an is the basis of the government, it is strictly interpreted and everything said must be followed. The United States of America constitution is the basis of the United States government, yet no one strictly interprets the document it is highly loose interpreted and everything is solid in the United States (being one of the most high value of liberty and equality country in the world). If availability is present, come to an agreement, there would be peace or at least it should and have the society running smoothly. Not only this but national law should be established to help women who are suppressed. Women have a greater amount of suffering from literacy and poverty than men do. Having a law that states women have the ability to wear anything desire as long as they follow the religion being Islam. Another law could be women gain the ability to have protests without being suppressed from the government because the government does not accept. In all Iran lacks the state of nature and must develop human rationally for all.