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### **Why must women be the inferior race in Iran?**

Throughout the world there are mass amounts of countries that do not give women simple rights and justice, more predominantly in Iran. Even in the United States, top country that freedom is highly available, the equality system between women and men are different. Men and women would not receive equal pay as an example.

In the Qatar Dynasty, (1789-1925) present day Iran, women had to be veiled at all times and were restricted in every way shape or form. They were not able to leave anywhere without a man or even go out without their veil covering the majority of their face. Not only not being able to go out unrestricted women inside the home were like the non-paid servant/maid. The women were assigned to do everything around the house, cook, clean, raise the children, laundry, attend the ill and much more. As for the man in the family, if present because some men would leave the family for not actually wanting a family or would be with a different person. The man would be the ones in the family to predominantly provide financial stability. Political rule in the Qatar Dynasty dominated the atmosphere among women. Laws were placed that deeply affected women's ability to do anything. Education for women was nonexistent. The only people that could get educated were men (if can afford it), the upper class, and upper class women (daughter of upper class man). Without no education women cannot prosper in any shape or form. Even at birth women were automatically inferior. When a baby girl was born the whole family would see the baby as a disgrace and burden to the whole family, because in their society could not prosper in any way, thus making the born like a "whatever" moment. If a baby boy was born then it was

a whole story. A boy was highly praised, there would be grand celebrations, the baby would be a sign of fortune, prosperity, and honor especially for the newly mother since they were just seen as a reproduction center. Life as a women in the Qatar Dynasty was unjust and hopeless. All this is because the Qatar Dynasty religion was Islam, where women are the inferior race.

Moving forward a new era begins after the fall of the Qatar 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. During this dynasty women had the ability to go to school for the first time. Not the rich women but everyone below the upper class. Women were able to prosper, receive money, and not be seen as a burden. Women could go into education, labor, anything they desire to study. The schools in the Qatar Dynasty only had men in the classrooms, but in the Pahlavi Dynasty there were a mixture of both sexes in the same school. There were some things that did not change, for instance the household activities. Women still had to work at home and do the majority of do things compared to man. Instead of the man being the only one for income women could now contribute and have a better lifestyle. Overall In the Pahlavi Dynasty life full of glory for women compared to how women

were treated in the Qatar Dynasty. Yet Islam was present during the Pahlavi Dynasty and women had more freedom, it is possible for women to be independent.

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.

Women's rights were non-existent (Qatar Dynasty), revived (Pahlavi Dynasty), and now minimal in the Islamic State. In each power Islam was instated and followed so and in the religion women are inferior, yet in the Pahlavi Dynasty women were made to have freedom and do almost as much as men could do. Why is now that women cannot have simple rights like to go out with no man supervising, work without a husband, or to sit in front of the bus? Rosa Parks sat in front of the bus and led to the civil rights movement, the black community was being suppressed. In Iran women are being suppressed and no one does nothing. Religion and state in Iran has negatively affected the lives of women, if a separation occurs or a decrease in religious power that would greatly impact women's freedom.