

A NEW (HINDU) WEDDING BID'AH

Written by Administrator
Monday, 18 April 2016 12:40 -

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DECORATING 'WEDDING' HOMES WITH LIGHTS

QUESTION

A new trend has lately developed among Muslims at homes where a wedding is taking place. Weeks before the wedding, the house is decorated externally with neon lights. What is the Shariah's ruling on this practice?

ANSWER

When a Muslim is ignorant of the teachings of Islam and he/she resolves to live in such haraam ignorance then attitudes and attributes of his/her ancestral progenitors begin to surface. Since the ancestors of Indian Muslims and Malay Muslims were idol-worshipping Hindus and Buddhists respectively, it will be seen that ignorant Indian Muslims and ignorant Malay Muslims having a flair for customs and practices which are fundamental constituents of these religions of *Shirk*.

It is precisely for this reason that the Barelwi Qabar Pujaaris (Grave-Worshippers) and the

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Malay Karaamat (Dargah) Worshippers have an 'inexplicable' craving for decorating graves, homes and buildings with lights, undertaking pilgrimage to the graves of the Auliya, executing acts of worship (idolatry/qabar puja), etc. Hitherto, the Bid'atis – the Qabar Puja fraternity – have restricted their Hindu lighting practices to their mosques on the occasion of the bid'ah 'meelaad' celebration. Now it appears that the *juhala (ignoramuses)* have extended this practice of the *mushrikeen* to even their homes, hence the decoration of homes with coloured lights to proudly and stupidly announce to the world and show off a marriage which is soon to be performed, and which may also end on the rocks of misery on account of the Divine Curse invited by the practices of the mushrikeen.

Nikah in Islam is a holy bond. It is an act of Ibaadat, hence the best venue for its performance is the Musjid. In Islam, all the wasteful and ostentatious paraphernalia accompanying weddings of the era are haraam bid'ah practices which becloud the marriage from the very inception with Divine Curses. Rasulullah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) said that the most blessed Nikah is the marriage which entails the least expenses.

The expenses in the context of this Hadith refer to lawful expenditure, not to haraam *Israaf (wasteful)* and *Riya (ostentatious)* expenditure – expenses of haraam practices such as those accompany the vast majority of marriages of the Muslim community of this age in proximity of Qiyaamah. As far as haraam expenditure is concerned, even a rand wasted invites the Curse and Wrath of Allah Azza Wa Jal. This new Hindu practice of decorating the marriage home is under the *La'nat (Curse)* of Allah Ta'ala and His Malaaikeh from the very time the Hindu decorations are initiated. Marriages which commence with haraam and evil are bedevilled with evil, misfortune and misery. Soon discord and dissension develop between the married couple.

The Islamic Nikah has to be compulsorily adhere to the Sunnah. The Nikah consists of only the five minute Nikah ceremony in the Musjid, and the Masnoon (Sunnah) Walimah (Nikah-Feast) which is the obligation of the husband. Not even the customary qiraa't recited at the Nikah ceremony is Sunnah. It is an unsubstantiated accretion. Besides this, there is no other frill and fancy attached to Nikah in Islam. The customary wedding feast organized by the girl's party has no relationship with the Sunnah. Nor do the extravagant functions held in haraam halls and on which huge sums of money are flushed down the sewer drain, have any relationship with Islam.

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Emulating the kuffaar has disastrous consequences in this dunya and in the Aakhirah. In the wake of kuffaar emulation, come grave marital problems and other calamities which ruin the marriage and peace of the couple. Emulation of the Yahoood, Nasaara and Mushrikeen in general has a grave sequel in the Aakhirat as well. In India a Maulana was walking in the street on the Hindu festival day known as *Holi*. On this day the Hindus squirt coloured water and cow's urine on all people who cross their evil paths. It is a festival of 'happiness' for them. Everything is colourful, hence the decorating of homes and buildings with coloured lights on their holy days and nights. And, this is what the new-fangled practice of decorating the wedding home is all about – it is about the practice of the Mushrikeen.

This Maulana Sahib who was eating *paan (beetle leaf)* which makes the mouth and the saliva a deep orange-red colour, came across a donkey which was standing forlornly. In a moment of *ghaflat (obliviousness – not applying his mind)*, the Maulana quipped:
“O donkey! Everyone is so happy today squirting colour on one another. No one is squirting anything on you. Anyhow, I shall do so.”
So saying, he spat his *paan-reddened* saliva on the donkey.

After the Maulana's demise, a friend saw in a dream, that the Maulana was in severe punishment in the Fire. Shocked and surprised, he asked the Maulana (in his dream) to explain the calamity which has befallen him in Barzakh (i.e. the life in the Grave – the State before Qiyaamah). The Maulana narrated the episode of the donkey, and said that since he had emulated a Hindu custom, Allah Ta'ala is now punishing him. Thus, those who adopt kuffaar practices and customs should beware of worldly calamities and calamities in the Aakhirah. Severe punishment awaits them for their imitation of acts which are *Mabghoodh (hated)* and *Ma l'oon (accursed)* to Allah Azza Wa Jal.

The Wedding of Hadhrat Faatimah (Radhiyallahu anhu) and of the Sahaabah in general is the Sunnah which Muslims should observe. Muslims should abandon the evil customs and practices of the kuffaar and re-introduce into their lives the simple, inexpensive and *Mubaarak (Blessed)* practices which Rasulullah (Sallallahu alayhi wasallam) has taught this Ummah. And, this Sunnah is not restricted to marriage practices. The Sunnah is applicable to every aspect of the Muslim's life from the time he wakes up in the morning to the time he goes to bed at night. When he decorates his life with the Sunnah, then his every breath whilst he is sleeping is recorded as a Tasbeeh
(a *Subhaanallah recitation*).

THE WEDDING OF THE QUEEN OF JANNAT

The definition of wedding *is: 'Marriage ceremony with its attendant festivities'*.

Every nation and culture has its own peculiar wedding customs and functions. Islam too has its way of conducting weddings. The Way of Islamic weddings is the practice shown to the Ummah in the Sunnah of Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam). Any method outside the limits of this Sunnah is not the Islamic way. It will necessarily be an accursed custom and the way which diverges from Siraatul Mustaqeem (the Straight Path) indicated by the Qur'aan Shareef. To understand the Islamic Wedding custom, it is necessary to study the way in which the marriages of the illustrious ladies of Islam were performed. In this regard it is appropriate to look at the Wedding of the Princess of both worlds, namely, Hadhrat Faatimah Zahraa (Radhiyallahu anha), the most beloved daughter of Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam). She was the Leader of womankind on earth and will be the Leader of womankind in Jannat.

THE MARRIAGE PROPOSAL

When Hadhrat Faatimah (radhiyallahu anha) was approximately 15 years and 6 months old, Hadhrat Ali (radhiyallahu anhu) who was 21 years at the time, approached Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) and put forward his proposal of marriage. Nabi-e-Kareem (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) immediately accepted his proposal. While Hadhrat Ali (radhiyallahu anhu) was still present, Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) sent Hadhrat Anas (radhiyallahu anhu) to call Hadhrat Abu Bakr, Hadhrat 'Umar, Hadhrat Uthmaan, Hadhrat Talhah, Hadhrat Zubair and a group of the Ansaar Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum). This was done and the small group gathered.

THE NIKAH

After the group arrived, Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) recited the Nikah Khutbah and the Nikah was performed. Some dates were distributed to the small group of Sahaabah who had assembled. The Mehr was fixed at 400 Mithqaal of silver which is in our parlance known as Mehr-e-Faatimi which nowadays is approximately R12,400 (April 2016).

THE RUKHSATI

The Rukhsati is the departure of the bride from the home of her parents to go to her husband's home. The same time, i.e. after the Nikah, Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) sent Hadhrat Faatimah (radhiyallahu anha) accompanied by Hadhrat Umme Aiman (radhiyallahu anha), a senior family lady, to her husband's home.

During the night-time, Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) went to the home of Hadhrat Ali (radhiyallahu anhu), called both the bride and the groom and made dua for them after sprinkling some water on them.

THE WALIMAH

The Walimah which Hadhrat Ali (radhiyallahu anhu) organised was extremely simple. Some cornbread and -sweetmeats were served to a handful of people. In one Hadith, Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) advised a Sahaabi to have the Walimah and even slaughter a goat. This depends on the number of people who will be attending the Walimah.

THE SIMPLICITY

Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) said: "The nikah with the most barkat is the nikah in which the least expense is entailed."

The Sunnat method of a wedding is conspicuously highlighted by the Wedding of Hadhrat Faatimah (radhiyallahu anha). The emphasis of the Sunnah is on 'simplicity'. From the wedding procedure described above, it will be clear that there should be no show, ostentation, waste, elaborate arrangement for feasting, hiring halls, huge pots (deks), etc. The months of pre-arrangement and organising which precede a wedding are un-Islamic and in conflict with the Sunnah. A simple announcement to publicist the Nikah is sufficient. The usual practice of people from other towns going to huge expense to attend wedding ceremonies and the

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accompanying waste and show are haraam acts.

Nowadays, weddings have become curses. A variety of unlawful customs and acts takes place. The huge amounts of money which are gushed down the drain in these haraam activities display what is called *kufraan-e-ni'mat* or ingratitude for the bounties of Allah Ta'ala. The money which people squander in satanic wedding customs should rather be diverted to the suffering servants of Allah Ta'ala. Right in our midst we will find many needy persons, including close relatives, who are struggling to make ends meet. A man has the audacity and the 'courage' to waste Allah's bounties in large amounts to carve for himself an imagined image-a mirage and a phantom of his nafs. But he is not prepared to assist people in need. While he will grudgingly dole out a pittance to needy people, he will boastfully squander large sums in haraam channels thereby coming within the ambit of the following Qur'aanic aayat:

"Do not squander (wealth). Verily, the squanderers are the brothers of shaitaan."

THE ISLAMIC SYSTEM OF WEDDING

The following are the ingredients of an Islamic Wedding

- 1) Informality. There is no need for elaborate arrangement and preparation. Simplicity is the hallmark of a Sunnat Wedding.
- 2) The Nikah ceremony which is also a very simple affair.
- 3) The Walimah which is a simple feast arranged by the man (groom). This too is a simple feast. Some poor persons should necessarily be invited to participate.

THE CUSTOMARY FEAST

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The customary gathering which takes place at the bride's home is not an Islamic or a Sunnat function. There is no need for any feasting to take place at the home of the bride. It should also be understood that the Walimah is a feast for men, not for women. Women should therefore not be invited to participate in a Walimah even if there are separate arrangements made to accommodate them.

BENDING UNDER HARAAM PRESSURE

Many people while keen to institute the Sunnah method, bend under pressure exercised by their wives and other family members. They submit to the pressure and ignore the Way of the Sunnah. In so doing they invite the Wrath of Allah Ta'ala. When the family exercises pressure, never should the man of Allah submit to such unlawful pressure. In so doing, he commits transgression against the Shariah, casts overboard the Sunnah of Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) and invites the Anger and Curse of Allah Ta'ala. Those men who submit to the unlawful pressure of their wives and children or of other family members are warned by Allah Ta'ala in the following Qur'aanic aayat:

"O People of Imaan! Verily some of your wives and children are your enemies. Therefore, beware of them... .."

"Verily, your wealth and your children are a fitnah (trial). And by Allah is the great reward."

When the family applies pressure and desires that the man submits to their wishes and organises wedding customs which are in conflict with the Sunnah, they then are in the capacity of enemies, for they ruin a man's relationship with Allah Ta'ala. Any person who attempts to introduce a Mu'min to disobedience and to abandoning the Sunnah is an enemy. Any person who becomes a medium for the ruin of one's Aakhirah is one's enemy. For such enemies who appear in the guise of friends, wives and children, the Qur'aan Majeed commands us to beware. When embarking on any activity it is our duty to examine our intentions and to keep in mind the Pleasure of Allah Ta'ala and our rewards in the Aakhirah.

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