

Name: Rumi

Supervisor: Dr. Farah Naaz

**Department: Department of Political Science, Faculty Of Social Science,
Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi-110025**

**Title: Right of the Muslim Women and their violation: A Comparative
Study of Azamgarh and Mau Districts of U.P.**

ABSTRACT

Of the Ph.D. Thesis

The study discusses different rights of Muslim women given by Islam. The main focus of the study would be various Rights of the Muslim women and their violation with special reference to Azamgarh and Mau districts of U.P. My study strives to provide correct data and information regarding the rights of Muslim women in these districts and to what extent they are able to enjoy these rights. This study is a cross section study of the sample of Muslim women of Azamgarh and Mau districts of Uttar Pradesh. It is based on the field work carried out among the Muslim women of these districts. The perception of women of the above mentioned districts were examined in relation to their rights regarding marriage and family, divorce, property, education, mehar, maintenance, decision making in the families, etc. The study also makes an effort to examine the impact of education and employment on these women. It also delves in their awareness of the Islamic and Constitutional rights and how far they are able to enjoy these rights.

Two districts of Uttar Pradesh having Muslim concentration have been taken for study namely, Azamgarh and Mau covering 16 villages from Azamgarh and 13 villages from Mau. The data was collected from 800 respondents, 400 from each district. In order to make an analysis, 427 illiterate Muslim women, 259 literate Muslim women and 114 educated employed Muslim women were chosen from both the districts.

Chapter 1 makes an in-depth analysis of the women in the historical context as in the ancient, medieval and modern period. The chapter also discusses the socio-economic, educational and political status of women in the contemporary India. The chapter also makes an analysis of major problems related to women in the contemporary Indian society. In contemporary Indian society men and women are not only treated differently but also unequally. It can also be different in different sections of any given society, usually the forms change over time in a number of societies including the present Indian society. Women

are facing many problems in the present day like- lack of education, dowry death, child marriages, sexual harassment, prostitution and trafficking, female infanticides and female feticides etc.

Chapter 2 of the thesis deals with the legal and Constitutional status of women in India. It also discusses the special provisions of Muslim women in the Constitution of India. After India got independence, the Constitution of India clearly emphasizes equal rights and treatment of women with respect to men and there is no discrimination between them. This chapter also discusses various social legislations concerning women to improve their condition as well as other special provisions and legislations for Muslim women passed by the Constitution of India from time to time to remove the gender inequality.

Chapter 3 makes an attempt to examine the status of women in Islam. In this chapter I have discussed various rights granted by the Islam to the women. The chapter discuss that the Islam does not believe in one kind of treatment in terms of rights, duties and punishments for both men and women in every instance. It considers one set of rights and duties and punishments more appropriate for men, and another set more appropriate for women. As a result, on some occasions Islam has taken a similar position for both women and men and on other, different positions. This chapter aims to give a background of the rights of women in Islam in the lights of the Holy *Quran* and the Hadith [sayings of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (S.A.W.)].

Chapter 4 focuses on the situation of Muslim women in Azamgarh, so far as their rights (under Islam) are concerned. It also studies, the socio-economic, political and educational status of Muslim women of the districts of Azamgarh and Mau. The study is based on the questions asked in the interview schedule from the women of Azamgarh and Mau. A select sample of 400 Muslim women in the Muslim dominant Mohallas each of Azamgarh and Mau districts was taken. In all 800 Muslim women were selected from both the districts. The questions were administered largely on a cross section of women with literary background as well illiterate segments besides the women from the employed sectors. The survey of Azamgarh and Mau districts of Uttar Pradesh were undertaken to understand the awareness and practical utility of the rights of Muslim women folk. The perceptions of the Muslim women in above mentioned districts on their status was examined in relation to their marriage and family, education, *Mehar*, maintenance, divorce, economic status, property, decision making in the family, voting behavior and political participation etc.

Chapter 5 broadly examines the conclusions, implications of the study and suggestions for further research. The aim of this chapter is to give summary and conclusion of the research. Some important recommendations are also given for effective implementation to improve the condition of Muslim women in the country in general and Azamgarh and Mau districts of Uttar Pradesh in particular.