



Bismillah-ir Rahman-ir Raheem

[In the name of Allah the Beneficent the Merciful]

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The Marriages of Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)

- Before the time of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), marriage had different meanings to different people. People got married, just as a fashion and not with the seriousness of religious matter.
- Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) gave a new and very noble meaning to the institution of marriage. He was also the first person, who introduced marriage as a solemn covenant of agreement, between a husband and a wife.
- He preached, that man and woman do not marry just for fashion, but they must marry to care and love for each other. Further, that man and woman must continue that love to their children and so forth. In doing so, the Holy Prophet (PBUH) changed the life of people in the Middle East, from animal-type behaviour, to that of noble people, who won the respect of others within their circle. An important point to note is, that he did not only preach to others, but practised what he preached and set examples to others.
- He was also the perfect exemplar. Altogether, the Holy Prophet married 10 times. He did not marry 10 times just because he wanted to get married many times, but because the situations were such, he married and set examples for others to follow. Many families were without somebody to care for them. Let us all study the marriages of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH):

1st Marriage to Mai Khadeeja:

When Muhammad was at the age of 25, he was not a prophet. Even at this young age he had special respect for marriages. Muhammad married the first time at the age of 25 to Khadeeja. Khadeeja was a widow and she was 40 years old. Muhammad proved to the world that a widow has the right to remarry. Before that time, a widow had no place in society. A widow was generally sold off as a slave. Khadeeja was his wife when Muhammad became Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). She remained his only wife till she died when Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was 54 years old. Around this time, the enemies of Islam fought many battles against Muslims and hundreds of Muslims were killed, leaving behind many widows with children. The deaths of hundreds of Muslim soldiers also left serious imbalance between men and women. There were much more women than men.

2nd Marriage to Mai Saudah:

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) married Mai Saudah, an old widow who was over 80 years old at her marriage. He married her after the death of Mai Khadeeja. Again, he proved to the world, that even a poor old widow has a place in marriage.

3rd Marriage to Mai Ayesha:

Mai Ayesha was the only single woman Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) married. All others were widows.

4th Marriage to *Mai Hafsha*:

Mai Hafsha was the daughter of Hazrat Umar. She was married to Khunais who was killed in the Battle of Badr.

5th Marriage to *Mai Zainab*:

Mai Zainab became a widow when her first husband, Abd Allah got killed in the Battle of Uhud. Later she was married to Zaid, who was a slave. Her marriage to Zaid did not last long and finally Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) married her after she divorced Zaid. Once again, the Holy Prophet (PBUH) proved to the world that a divorced woman, and wife of a slave, also has a place for re-marriage.

6th Marriage to *Mai Umm Salamah*:

Abu Salamah was a close friend of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). After Abu Salamah died, the Holy Prophet (PBUH) married his widow Mai Umm Salamah.

7th Marriage to *Mai Umm Habiban*:

Umm Habiban was the wife of Ubaid Allah. They were both Christians. After Ubaid Allah died, Mai Umm Habiban married Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and became a devout Muslim.

8th Marriage to *Mai Juwairiyah*:

Juwairiyah was the wife of an enemy army commander of Bani Mustaliq. When she became a widow and no one to take care of her, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) married her. As a result over 100 families of Bani Mustaliq came over to Muslim side and became Muslims.

9th Marriage to *Mai Maimunah*:

Maimunah was also the widow of another enemy army commander. When the Holy Prophet (PBUH) married her, many of her tribe became Muslims.

10th and Final Marriage to *Mai Safiyyah*:

Safiyyah was also the widow of an enemy army commander. When Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) married her, many of her tribe also followed and became Muslims.

Points to Note:

- Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was not allowed to divorce a wife.
- None of his wives were allowed to divorce or re-marriage after death of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).
- After that the verse of Holy Qu'ran at Chapter 33 verse 52 was revealed: **“It is not allowed to thee to take wives after this, nor to change them for other wives, though their beauty be pleasing thee, except whom thy right hand possesses. And Allah is ever watchful over all things,”** he did not marry any other woman.