
***Qawāmīyat: Superiority or Responsibility?
An Examination of Orientalists Studies of *Al-Nisā'*
4:34 in the Light of Latest Scientific Researches***

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Abstract:

The concept of qawāmīyat of the Holy Qurān which defines responsibility of men towards woman removed all the ancient burdens of humiliation and degradation from womanhood by making her responsible for only those tasks which she can perform conveniently according to her creative design and nature. This research is based on a discussion of qawāmīyat to encompass those theories by which the Qurānic concept of qawāmīyat has always been confused by non-Muslim researchers with ancient notions of superiority of man over woman. In contrast to the Holy Qurān, the holy texts of the other two most prominent Semitic and non-Semitic religions faiths, Christianity and Hinduism, regard females as inferior to man in all realms of human affairs; the notion also parallels the myths and taboos of ancient civilizations. The perception of female inferiority is so deeply rooted that the concept of qawāmīyat of the holy Qurān is mostly confused with these misogynistic ideas which are actually based upon gender differences and social perceptions about assignment of responsibilities.