

Rights and Obligations of Husband and Wife (Theological Normative and Sociological Approach)

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Abstract	<i>Marriage in Islam regulates the rights and obligations of husband and wife, which are important for the creation of harmony in the household. However, the implementation of these rights and obligations is often influenced by various social, cultural and economic factors, which can have both positive and negative impacts on the husband-wife relationship. This study aims to analyze the rights and obligations of husband and wife from the perspective of the Qur'an and hadith, and identify the social factors that influence their implementation in society. The main research questions are how religious teachings on the rights and obligations of husband and wife are translated into social practices, and what social impacts arise from their application in daily life. This study uses the Library Research method with a qualitative approach, analyzing the texts of the Qur'an, hadith, tafsir, as well as related literature, by connecting the theories of sociology of religion and social justice. The findings of this study indicate that a balanced and fair application of rights and obligations can strengthen the husband-wife relationship and create family harmony. However, an imbalance in the fulfillment of rights and obligations can lead to conflict, inequality and even domestic violence, affecting the overall quality of family life. Thus, this study emphasizes the importance of understanding the social and cultural context in the application of religious teachings to achieve a harmonious and just household.</i>
Keywords	<i>Rights, Obligations, Husband and Wife</i>

Introduction

Marriage in Islam is a very noble bond and is considered a sunnah that brings blessings to the couple who live it. In Islamic teachings, marriage is not just a social relationship, but also a bond that contains spiritual and moral values that must be maintained. Husbands and wives each have rights and obligations that must be

carried out in order to create a household that is *sakinah*, *mawaddah*, and *rahmah*. Therefore, understanding the rights and obligations of husband and wife is very important in family life, because this is directly related to the harmony and welfare of the household.

The Qur'an and the traditions of the Prophet Muhammad are the main sources in determining the rights and obligations of husband and wife. In many verses and traditions, both husbands and wives are given certain rights that must be respected and fulfilled by their spouses. For example in QS. An-Nisa: 34 states that the husband is the leader in the household who has the responsibility to maintain and protect the wife, while the wife has the right to receive good treatment and proper maintenance. This concept has provided clear guidelines regarding a balanced relationship in marriage, where the husband is tasked with providing for and protecting the wife, while the wife has the right to receive attention, affection, and respect. (Ibrahim, 2008)

However, the implementation of these rights and obligations in real life often faces various challenges and obstacles. Many social, cultural and economic factors influence how couples understand and implement religious teachings in their daily lives. In many societies, especially those that still adhere to a patriarchal culture, there is often inequality in the division of roles between husbands and wives. The husband is considered the head of the family who has greater authority in decision-making, while the wife is more often considered a housekeeper whose main task is to take care of the children and manage domestic affairs. On the other hand, in more modern and egalitarian societies, the rights and obligations of husband and wife are more often applied in a more balanced way, where both have equal opportunities to play a role in various aspects of family life, whether in terms of economics, education, or important household decisions.

In dealing with these dynamics, scholars' interpretations of verses and traditions related to the rights and obligations of husband and wife also play an important role. The scholars, through various approaches of exegesis, explain that the Qur'anic verses and hadith about marriage must be understood in the social and cultural context of the times when the verses were revealed. For example, when the Qur'an mentions that the husband is the leader in the family, this does not mean that the husband has absolute power to dominate the wife, but rather the responsibility to provide protection, maintenance and guidance to the wife. The interpretations of contemporary scholars often emphasize that the husband's leadership in the family must be carried out with the principles of justice, compassion, and respect for the wife's rights. Therefore, in the context of modern society, this understanding can be translated into a more egalitarian relationship, where couples support each other and share responsibilities in domestic life.

In addition to interpretation, social and cultural practices are also very influential in the implementation of husband and wife rights and obligations. For example, in some traditional societies, women are often positioned in more limited roles, such as as housewives who do not have the freedom to pursue a career or education. Although Islamic teachings provide ample space for women to develop, social and cultural inequalities often limit their roles in the family and society. On the other hand, in more open urban societies, the wife's role in family life tends to be more valued, with many couples sharing household duties and supporting each other's

careers. This difference reflects the tension between religious teachings that emphasize equality and justice, and the prevailing social and cultural norms in society.

In this regard, case studies or phenomena on the practice of spousal roles in society can provide a clearer picture of how religious and social norms interact. In many families, despite awareness of the importance of husband-wife rights and obligations, there are still many inequalities in the application of wives' rights, such as the right to have a say in decision-making or the right to a decent livelihood. Economic factors, such as the husband's higher income or the wife's dependence on the husband, often exacerbate this inequality. On the other hand, in more egalitarian families, the role of wives is more respected, and they have the freedom to participate in various aspects of life, including career, education and household decision-making.

This relationship between religious norms and social dynamics reflects the importance of a deep understanding of Islamic teachings in the developing social context. Although Islamic teachings explicitly teach about equality and justice in marriage, its implementation is often influenced by existing social and cultural factors. Therefore, in order to create a harmonious and balanced household, it is imperative for couples to understand their rights and obligations from the correct religious perspective, while keeping in mind the social and cultural dynamics around them. This article will further review the rights and duties of husband and wife in the Qur'an and hadith, as well as how scholarly interpretations and social practices affect their application in domestic life.

Research methods

The focus of this study is to analyze the rights and obligations of husband and wife from the perspective of the Qur'an and hadith, as well as the social, cultural and economic implications that affect their implementation. The impacts both positive (strengthening family relationships, household harmony) and negative (conflict, inequality, domestic violence) will be discussed in depth. This research aims to explore the normative and social understanding of the application of these rights and obligations in society.

The type of research used is Library Research, with a qualitative approach, relying on theories of sociology of religion and social justice to analyze the relationship between religious teachings and social dynamics. Data sources include the Qur'an, hadith, tafsir books, scientific articles, and scholarly works as primary and secondary legal sources, as well as journals and articles as non-legal sources. Data collection techniques used literature studies, and data analysis was conducted using content analysis and thematic analysis methods to explore the main themes related to the rights and obligations of husband and wife in Islam.

Results and Discussion

Rights and Obligations of Husband and Wife

The rights and duties of husband and wife in the Qur'an and hadith are very important topics to understand in the context of family life. In Islamic teachings,

marriage is not only a worldly bond but also a spiritual bond that has a very strong basis in divine revelation. The Qur'an and hadith provide clear guidelines on the rights and obligations of each spouse, with the aim of creating a harmonious and blessed life.

One of the verses that is often used as a reference regarding the rights and obligations of husband and wife is QS. An-Nisa: 34, which states that men are the leaders of women in the household. The verse states, "Men are the leaders of women, because Allah has given some of them more than others, and because they (the men) have spent some of their wealth...". In their interpretation, scholars state that this verse is not to give the husband an authoritarian position, but rather the husband's responsibility as the protector and maintainer of the household. Leadership in this context means that the husband is tasked with providing protection, sustenance, and guidance to the wife, as well as making decisions that support the welfare of the family. Tafsir scholars such as al-Qurtubi and al-Tabari emphasize that the leader in the family must act fairly and wisely, and treat the wife with love and respect.

In addition, in the traditions of the Prophet Muhammad, there are many instructions on the rights and duties of husband and wife. One famous hadith states, "The best of you are those who treat their wives best." (HR. Tirmidhi). This Hadith shows the importance of good and loving treatment from husbands to wives. In this context, husbands are expected not only to fulfill material needs, but also to provide emotional attention and foster respectful relationships. The Prophet Muhammad SAW also said, "You will not be able to do good to your wives perfectly, because it is impossible, so do not let the bad feelings you feel cause you to be unjust to them..." (HR. Bukhari). This Hadith emphasizes the importance of fair treatment, even though there are challenges and differences of opinion in household relationships. (Wahbah, 2002)

In interpreting these verses and traditions, scholars often relate them to the social and cultural context of the time. On the one hand, in a highly patriarchal society, such as that of the Prophet Muhammad's time, the verses provide guidance for husbands to lead the household with full responsibility. However, in the context of modern society, many scholars argue that the understanding of the husband's leadership does not necessarily mean domination, but rather a mutually supportive partnership, with joint decision-making in the family. In this context, the role of the wife is also recognized and respected, especially in decisions related to communal living, child education, and household management. (Suko Susilo, 2023)

However, the application of these rights and obligations in practice is often affected by social and cultural factors present in society. In many traditional cultures, there is an understanding that the husband is the supreme authority in the household, and wives are expected to submit to his decisions. While Islamic teachings emphasize the importance of love and respect, in some societies, this understanding has not been fully implemented. For example, in patriarchal societies, wives may feel they have little space to speak up or be involved in family decision-making. In fact, in some cases, wives are not treated fairly when it comes to sharing household tasks or even earning a living, due to the tradition that considers the husband's job to be limited to earning a living, while the wife is fully responsible for domestic affairs.

This phenomenon is often seen in rural communities, where traditional norms are more strongly enforced. In these places, wives may not have sufficient access to education or employment outside the home, so their position is highly dependent on their husbands. However, in more open and progressive urban societies, there is more awareness of women's rights. For example, many couples in big cities make more of an effort to share domestic duties, with husbands helping with household chores and providing emotional support to wives. The role of wives in urban societies also tends to be more valued, both in terms of career and education, which gives them more freedom to develop themselves.

In this comparative study, we can see how the application of spousal rights and responsibilities is strongly influenced by the social and cultural norms that exist in society. In big cities, where the understanding of gender equality is more developed, couples often share roles and act more egalitarian. While in villages or areas with lower levels of education, awareness of wives' rights is still lacking, so sometimes wives are positioned as subservient and more passive in decision-making.

This relationship between religious norms and social dynamics suggests a tension between religious teachings that emphasize justice and compassion in marriage, and social practices that may not fully reflect these values. In many cases, while Islamic teachings strongly emphasize the need for fair treatment and mutual respect in marriage, social and cultural factors often act as barriers to the implementation of these rights and obligations. Therefore, a better understanding of religious teachings and changes in social and cultural norms are essential to creating a more just and harmonious society, especially in the context of husband-wife relationships.

Rights and Obligations of Husband and Wife in Normative Theological Perspective

The rights and obligations of husband and wife in a normative theological perspective are an integral part of Islamic teachings designed to create balance in domestic life. Marriage in Islam is not only seen as a social and emotional bond, but also as a sacred covenant (*mitsaqan ghalizha*) that contains great responsibility. Therefore, the rights and obligations of husband and wife are regulated in great detail in the Qur'an, hadith, and the *ijtihad* of scholars to ensure justice and harmony in the family.

The rights that the husband has include several important aspects that become obligations for the wife. One of the main rights of the husband is to get obedience from his wife. This obedience does not mean that the wife must submit absolutely, but rather obedience within the boundaries of *sharia*. The wife's obedience to her husband is recognized as a form of respect for the husband's role as leader of the family, as affirmed in QS. An-Nisa: 34, "*Ar-rijalu qawwamuna 'ala n-nisa*". This verse gives legitimacy to men to be the leader of the household, but within the framework of responsibility, not unilateral authority. The husband's leadership must also be exercised with wisdom and oriented towards the benefit of the family, not in an authoritarian manner.

Another obligation of the wife in relation to the husband's rights is to maintain the honor of herself and her household. This includes maintaining the family trust, managing the household well, and maintaining the confidentiality of the household from outsiders. The husband's honor must be maintained in both action and speech, especially in social interactions outside the home. In addition, the wife is also obliged to assist her husband emotionally and physically, including in fulfilling biological needs. In the hadith, it is mentioned that one of the things that can bring Allah's pleasure is when a wife fulfills her husband's needs sincerely, as long as it does not conflict with the Sharia.

Conversely, wives also have rights that must be fulfilled by their husbands. One of the main rights of a wife is to receive proper maintenance from her husband. This maintenance includes basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter, and other needs according to the husband's ability. In QS. Al-Baqarah: 233, it is stated that the father (husband) is responsible for providing for the family according to his capacity. This right of maintenance symbolizes the financial responsibility of the husband in ensuring the welfare of the family. Even if the wife has her own income, the responsibility of maintenance still falls on the husband's shoulders (Sayyid, 2008).

Another right that wives have is to be treated fairly by their husbands. This justice is very important, especially in the context of polygamous marriages. Islam stipulates that if a husband decides to have more than one wife, he is obliged to be fair in terms of materials, time, and affection. Failure to be fair in polygamy can be a major cause of household breakdown and violates sharia principles. In addition, wives are also entitled to good and loving treatment from their husbands. In QS. An-Nisa: 19, Allah says, "And associate with them properly...", indicating that husband-wife interactions should be based on love, gentleness, and respect. (Shalah, 2017)

This concept of love is also emphasized in the hadith of the Prophet Muhammad, who said that the best among men are those who are best to their families. The husband is not only obliged to fulfill his wife's physical needs, but also her emotional and spiritual needs. In this context, good communication, attention, and respect for the wife's feelings become an important part of the husband's obligations.

The rights and obligations of husband and wife do not stand alone, but complement each other in a reciprocal relationship. For example, the wife's obedience to her husband must be balanced with the husband's fair and responsible leadership. Likewise, the fulfillment of maintenance by the husband must be balanced with the attitude of the wife who is good at being grateful and appreciating the husband's efforts. This relationship reflects the desired balance in Islam, where each party plays its role according to its nature and capacity.

This balance between rights and obligations is very important to maintain harmony in the household. If one party fails to fulfill their obligations, the rights of the other party will also be neglected, which can ultimately destabilize the family. For example, if the husband does not provide proper maintenance or treats the wife badly, the wife may find it difficult to respect or obey her husband. Conversely, if the wife does not support her husband emotionally or does not maintain the honor of the household, the husband may feel a loss of respect and trust.

In the Islamic view, these rights and obligations also have a dimension of worship. Fulfilling one's spouse's rights not only brings worldly benefits, but is also a form of obedience to Allah SWT. A harmonious household not only provides happiness to the couple, but also serves as a place of moral education for children and contributes to the creation of a just and peaceful society. Thus, understanding and implementing the rights and obligations of husband and wife is not only a moral and social obligation, but also a form of devotion to Allah that will bring blessings to life.

Sociological Analysis of the Implementation of Rights and Obligations

A sociological analysis of the implementation of conjugal rights and obligations in society provides deep insight into how social, cultural, economic and educational factors influence the application of these rights in everyday life. The implementation of conjugal rights and obligations does not only depend on religious understanding alone, but is also influenced by social factors that play an important role in shaping the behavior patterns of spouses in the household.

Economic factors are one of the elements that greatly affect the implementation of rights and obligations in marriage. When the family's economic condition is good, the fulfillment of the wife's rights, such as proper maintenance, can run smoothly. Husbands who have a steady job and sufficient income can fulfill their obligations better. Conversely, in difficult economic conditions, the issue of maintenance can be a source of conflict in the household, affecting the husband-wife relationship. When a husband struggles to meet the economic needs of the family, this can undermine the wife's confidence and even potentially trigger tension. In addition, in poorer societies or those with high unemployment rates, inequalities in the fulfillment of conjugal rights are often more pronounced, with many parties having to give in or compromise due to limited resources.

On the other hand, education also determines how these rights and obligations are understood and implemented in the family. Individuals who have a good education, both husbands and wives, tend to understand their rights and obligations in a more rational context and in accordance with religious teachings. Education provides greater insight into the importance of balance in the husband-wife relationship, as well as how to manage the household in a fair and loving way. Couples with higher levels of education, particularly in religious and social fields, are generally better able to understand their partner's rights and apply them in real life. In contrast, in families with low levels of education, misunderstandings about rights and obligations, such as those related to issues of maintenance or roles in the household, often arise and can lead to marital injustice or tension.

Cultural factors also play a large role in the implementation of husband and wife rights and obligations. In many cultures, the roles of husbands and wives have been shaped by long-standing traditions, which may not be fully in line with religious teachings on equality and justice in the household. For example, in some traditional societies, wives are considered to be subservient to their husbands, and their rights may not be given equal attention. In patriarchal cultures, women are often seen as mere managers of the household, whose main duties are to take care of children and

husbands, while their rights to education, personal freedom or careers are often neglected. Such a culture can hinder the equal implementation of wives' rights, such as the right to fair treatment or the freedom to have a say in family decisions. In contrast, in more progressive and egalitarian societies, spousal rights and duties are more often accepted and practiced with greater equality, allowing both parties to perform their roles more fairly and equitably.

However, in practice, the application of the rights and obligations of husband and wife often faces obstacles that hinder the achievement of household harmony. One of the main obstacles is an imbalance in the understanding of the roles and rights of each spouse. Many husbands feel that they have the right to dominate decisions in the household, while wives may feel that they are not given the space to express their opinions or to develop personally and professionally. This inequality in the division of roles is often caused by social customs or even a misunderstanding of religion. In addition, poor communication between spouses can also be a major obstacle in the implementation of rights and obligations. The inability to talk openly about each other's needs or concerns can lead to feelings of not being valued or understood, leading to greater conflict in the household.

Other constraints are broader social factors, such as pressures from extended family, community or culture that require couples to follow certain norms, even though these may not be in line with the principles of domestic justice. For example, in some communities, marriages are often affected by pressures to maintain the family image, which may result in partners holding back feelings or not talking about issues. In addition, changes in social structures, such as increased urbanization and shifts in family patterns, can also exacerbate issues of inequality in husband-wife relationships. In traditional societies, women may more readily accept the roles assigned to them, but in more modern societies, where gender equality is increasingly emphasized, issues of inequality become more apparent and often cause tension.

When compared between urban and rural communities, differences in the application of conjugal rights and obligations can also be seen. In urban communities, where education levels and social awareness are higher, there is often a better understanding of equal rights and obligations in marriage. Couples in big cities are more likely to share roles in the family, both economic and domestic. On the other hand, in rural communities, where traditions and social norms are still strong and conservative, rights and obligations in marriage are often more influenced by patriarchal customs. In villages or remote areas, wives may still be seen as the primary caretakers of the household, while husbands have more decision-making power. However, social change, both in urban and rural areas, is increasingly bringing awareness to the importance of equality and fairness in the family, although the degree of implementation varies.

Thus, a sociological analysis of the implementation of conjugal rights and obligations shows that economic, educational and cultural factors strongly influence how principles of justice are applied in domestic life. Despite these constraints, more inclusive social change and better education are expected to reduce marital inequality and improve understanding of rights and obligations within the family.

Conclusion

The conclusion of this study shows that the rights and obligations of husband and wife in Islam, which are listed in the Qur'an and hadith, have a very important role in creating a harmonious and balanced relationship in the household. The implementation of these rights and obligations, if done fairly and in balance, can strengthen the husband-wife relationship, support family welfare, and reduce conflict in the household. However, an imbalance in the fulfillment of rights and obligations can lead to negative impacts, such as inequality, tension, and even domestic violence, which damage the quality of life of family members. In addition, this study also revealed that social, cultural and economic factors play a significant role in the application of religious teachings related to husband and wife rights and obligations. Societies that have a patriarchal culture or social values that limit the role of women can affect the way these rights and obligations are practiced in daily life. Therefore, it is important to understand the social and cultural context in implementing religious teachings so that these rights and obligations can be implemented fairly and have a positive impact on family harmony.

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