

# Importance of Secret Keeping in family life in the enlightening of Islamic Sharia

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## ABSTRACT

Keeping secret is one of the fundamental issues in different parts of human life and especially in family life. Muslims and especially the family members are responsible for taking much care of secret keeping, accepting rules and regulations of social and family life, believing in each other and studying for passing life with love and sincerity. Keeping secret is life so it has to be a part of the daily life. For a Muslim, keeping secret is not only the demand of well behavior but it is also a responsibility given by Sharia. Disclosing secret damages freedom of human and betterment of the regime so every human and especially Muslim is supposed to keep the secret and pretend himself or herself responsible for secret keeping.

## 1. Preface

There are many benefits in the accepting and implementation of every rule of the religion of Islam. One of these rules is secret keeping, about which the religion of Islam has clear guidance and keeping secret presents one of the examples of well behavior.

Secret is an important part of human life. Secret has lots of types and states, that are of benefits and losses such as economic, political, Administrative, security, rightful, social, ....., family and personal secrets.

It is a fact that secret keeping has key task in the change of human life. Success has direct relation with secret keeping in worldwide life passing to family life. Secret keeping is the key instruments of human life sustaining, so as a clever Muslim, not only we by ourselves but also others should be motivated to take care of secret keeping.

Now a days, secret keeping is not taken serious in different parts of life because of which there is disbelieving, instability and backwardness in the society.

## 2. Objectives

- Public awareness about secret keeping to the people for the development of a peaceful society.
- Paying attention of the people to the benefits of secret keeping.
- Awareness of the people about the religious losses, world pertaining losses and hereafter pertaining losses.

## 3. Literature review

As there are long and short discussions and papers already written, I will mention few of them here:

Importance of secret keeping in Islam "written by MaryamJalazai", (wasiweb.com).

Kitman u Sir "written by Shaikh Mohammad SalihAlmunjid" (AlmoqiRasmi Li Shaikh Mohammad SalihAlmunjid)

WajubHifz e Sirain bin Zawjain published in Islam web (07/10/2008)

Manhaj u Tarbiah Al NabawialiTifl "written by Mohammad Noor Abdul Hafiz Sawid", Dar IbnKasir, Birut.

And other papers which state about secret keeping or guide about secret keeping in family life. In this papers, I used verses of holy Quran, Hadiths and sayings of Imams to make it as a supportive document to others.

## 4. Methodology

This is a library research where in addition to the holy Quran and hadiths different books and internet are used.

## 5. Research questions

The aim of this research is to answer the question which states orders of Sharia about secret keeping and disclosing in different parts of human life.

In this research paper, answers to the following questions will be obtained:

Question: what is the order of Saharia and human responsibility about secret keeping and disclosing?

Sub questions:

1. What is the importance of secret keeping in the present human life?
2. What is the guidance of Sharia about secret keeping?
3. What is the benefit of secret keeping?
4. What is the loss of secret disclosing?
5. What is the human responsibility about secret keeping?

## 6. Introduction to the word Secret:

The word Secret is the name of the promise that a person keeps it with himself its antonym is emerge (announce) (21), (22).

AlamalbnManzoor Al Afriqae writes:

Translation: Secret, it is something that is kept hidden and its plural is keeping secrets(3).

AlamalbnManzoor Al Afriqae also writes:

Translation: Secret, the saying kept hidden in the heart of a person (3).

Mawardi has written about Secret:

Translation: secret keeping is the strength of a person through which his sayings are kept and hidden from publishing; you will not see the signs of this secret and no one can have information about this secret(19).

AlamalbnHubban introduces it as:

Translation: secret is named with this name because it is spread (2).

## 7. Types of Secret

Imam RaghifAsfahani writes about types of secret:

Translation: secret has two types. The first is, when a person is said about something and then he is asked or demanded not to tell it to others, this demand has two types. The first, demand is said with saying as keep my saying hidden and the second is to understand him without saying as when the speaker tries to be alone during saying or slow the sound during saying or take him out of the meeting during saying. Because of this, it is said when a person is saying about something to you and looking at one and another side then this saying is deposit with you. And the second type is pointed by scholars with the saying as: telling people about an action before its performing indicates weakening. Keeping the first type secrets is related to local people and the second type is wisdom and care which is related to kings and politicians(5).

Mubarak Armawi writes:

Translation: secret has two types, the first is your own, keeping of which need seriousnessand the second is the secret of other person, keeping of which need kindness (8).

Personal secrets

The Secret, when a person tries to hide it from others, is called personal secret (18)

. Personal secrets originate from human personal life. Life of human has two sides, they are:

1. Secrets, through which human tends to outside, through which social relations and public activities
2. Secrets related to a person, his family and his close family members, its first is public and second is called special or personal, in which outside part is not the property of a person.

Secrets related to wife and husband

Aim of marriage or Nikah between a husband and a wife is not only performing sexual relationship but it is the permanent sustainable joint life in which each side against the other has responsibility and rights and each side is obligated to take care of the other's rights and responsibilities for example one of these rights and responsibilities is keeping secrets which is obligatory between the two sides, specifically is the secret of sexual intercourse (Jima), where the messenger of Almighty Allah has prohibited Muslims from its disclosing. Disclosing of such secrets is shameless and is evil.

Relationship of marriage is a pure and respected relationship which is included in wedding (Nikah) as Almighty Allah says:

Translation: And when the prophet confided a matter unto one of his wives and she then divulged it, and Allah informed him of it, he made known to her part thereof, and avoided mentioning part of it. And when he informed her of it, she said, 'The All-Knowing, the All-Aware God has informed me.'(25)

Translation:And fulfil the covenant; for the covenant shall be questioned about (25).

Translation: O ye who believe! prove not false to Allah and the Messenger, nor prove false to your trusts knowingly (25).

It is in hadith (Saying of Prophet of Almighty Allah),

Translation: Abu Sa'id al-Khudri (Allah he pleased with him) reported that Allah's Messenger (may peace be upon him) said : The most wicked among the people in the eye of Allah on the Day of judgment is the man who goes to his wife and she comes to him, and then he divulges her secret.(23)

In another hadith,

Translation:AbuNadrah reported: An old man of Tufawah said to me: I was a guest of AbuHurayrah at Medina. I did not find any one of the companions of the Prophet more devoted to worship and more hospitable than AbuHurayrah.

One day I was with him when he was sitting on his bed. He had a purse which contained pebbles or kernels. A black slave-girl of his was sitting below. Counting them he was glorifying Allah. When the pebbles or the kernels in the purse were finished, she gathered them and put them again in the purse, and gave it to him. He said: Should I not tell you about me and about the Messenger of Allah?

I said: Yes. He said: Once when I was laid up with fever in the mosque, the Messenger of Allah came and entered the mosque, and said: Who saw the youth of ad-Daws. He said this three times.

A man said: Messenger of Allah, there he is, laid up with fever on one side of the mosque. He moved, walking forward till he reached me. He placed his hand on me. He had a kind talk with me, and I rose. He then began to walk till he reached the place where he used to offer his prayer. He paid his attention to the people. There were two rows of men and one row of women, or two rows of women and one row of men (the narrator is doubtful).

He then said: If Satan makes me forget anything during the prayer, the men should glorify Allah, and the women should clap their hands. The Messenger of Allah then prayed and he did not forget anything during the prayer.

He said: Be seated in your places, be seated in your places. The narrator, Musa, added the word "here". He then praised Allah and exalted Him, and said: Now to our topic.

The agreed version begins: He then said: Is there any man among you who approaches his wife, closes the door, covers himself with a curtain, and he is concealed with the curtain of Allah?

They replied: Yes. He said: later he sits and says: I did so-and-so; I did so-and-so. The people kept silence. He then turned to the women and said (to them): Is there any woman among you who narrates it? They kept silence. Then a girl fell on one of her knees. The narrator, Mu'ammil, said in his version: a buxom girl. She raised her head before the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) so that he could see her and listen to her.

She said: Messenger of Allah, they (the men) describe the secrets (of intercourse) and they (the women) also describe the secrets (of intercourse) to the people.

He said: Do you know what the similitude is? He said: The likeness of this act is the likeness of a female Satan who meets the male Satan on the roadside; he fulfils his desire with her while the people are looking at him. Beware! The perfume of

men is that whose smell becomes visible and its colour does not appear. Beware! The perfume of women is that whose colour becomes visible and whose smell is not obvious(10).

AlamaShawkani writes that

Translation: both of the hadiths indicate that it not permissible for both husband and wife to divulge the secrets of sexual intercourse to others(12).

Keeping secret is significant as Holy Quran pointed this issue in a clear statement so it is compulsory on wives to keep all the secrets of their husbands and not to tell to anyone.it is mentionable that the order of secret keeping is not limited to sexual intercourse but it is for all small and big issues of the family. Keeping secrets is the foundation for happy life in family life.

Amama daughter of Al Haris advised her daughter while she was getting married to KhalifaAmribnHajar and told her

Translation: do not disobey him and do not divulge his any type secret to anyone. If you do not obey him, he will get angry and he will become jealous with you and if you divulge his secret, he may cheat you and take revenge from you (11).

Imam Ghazali writes that a person decided to divorce his wife another person asked him

Translation: what defect have you seen in her?

He told him that a wise person does not divulge the secrets of his wife. When he divorced her, he asked him again, why have you divorced her? He told what my business with the other person wife is(17).

In another hadith, the prophet of Almighty Allah says:

Translation: "All the sins of my followers will be forgiven except those of the Mujahirin (those who commit a sin openly or disclose their sins to the people). An example of such disclosure is that a person commits a sin at night and though Allah screens it from the public, then he comes in the morning, and says, 'O so-and-so, I did such-and-such (evil) deed yesterday,' though he spent his night screened by his Lord (none knowing about his sin) and in the morning he removes Allah's screen from himself."(7).

The prophet of Almighty Allah also says:

Translation: The most important of the trusts in the sight of Allah on the Day of Judgment is that a man goes to his wife and she goes to him (and the breach of this trust is) that he should divulge her secret (23).

AlamalbnHaban has written that:

Translation:Secret is trust and its divulge is cheating(2).

AlamaTartoshi writes that:

Translation: I am saying that when it is trust so cheating is unlawful as in the trust of properties(14).

AlamHarfi writes that:

Translation: training of the prophet was not limited to men or women but it children were also saturated by it as the good example is AnasIbnMalik(24).

The prophet of Almighty Allah ordered his ten year servant to keep secret.

Ali IbnTalib has said that:

Translation: do not divulge your secret without yourself. Because every good friend hasanother good friend(If you divulge to your good friend he may have another good friend). In fact, I have seeninsubordinate and disobedient people that they demolish every constructed place(9).

Mansoor writes that:

Translation: your secret is from your blood, and think do not let anyone be the owner of your blood (9).

Author of OmdatulQari writes about it as:

Translation: As HuzaifalbnAiman was close, reliable and high ranked person to the prophet so the prophet named him owner of the secrets of the prophet(16).

If you study the life of the prophet, we will find that the prophet had secret keeping policy in many parts of the life.

Benefits of secret keeping

Secret keeping is the reason for prohibition from different dangers.

It is the reason for performing the aimed affairs correctly, with peace and friendly.

Secret keeping is the sign of perfect belief (15).

It is the behavior of good people.

It is the reason for individual and social trust.

It is the sign of wisdom.

It is the news for having good administration.

Secret keeping is honesty.

Secret keeping prohibits social disorder.

It prohibits evils.

It is the reason for happy and lovely life between wife and husband (20).

Loses of secret keeping

Divulge of secret is putting oneself in danger.

It causes demolishing of social life and order.

It causes spreading evils.

It causes cheating with trust.

Divulge secret disorders family life.

Conclusion

Divulge secret affects life and hereafter of human directly and indirectly. Secret keeping is compulsory and its divulge is prohibited. It is essential to take secret keeping serious. If we keep secret, our life and hereafter would be ordered and guaranteed and on the other hand the guidance of the religion of Islam would be acted upon and finally we would have happy and pleasant life and hereafter.

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