WOMEN, STATE AND IDEOLOGY

Also edited by Haleh Afshar

IRAN: A REVOLUTION IN TURMOIL
WOMEN, WORK AND IDEOLOGY

Women, State and Ideology

Studies from Africa and Asia

Edited by

Haleh Afshar

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HALEH AFSHAR

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Glossary

abusua dihyie royal matrilineage

adat matrilinear practices

adidi sika chop money

aliya wave of immigration

asetena bo marriage ceremony

a-sudh naturally impure, also called na-pak

awowa a pawn

ayefere adultery fee

Ayurvedic an indigenous system of sophisticated 'high culture' medicine derived from the Sambrit vedas (Hindu religious work) and associated with Hindu culture

babaso gonorrhoea

bhangan female member of the Hindu Bhangi caste whose traditional work is to sweep away the night soil, an occupation which makes her a member of the untouchable caste

chamar a Hindu intouchable caste, traditionally leather workers

chen charm the women's corp of israel army

chikan embroidery

co giao Miss Teacher

dai traditional village midwife with no training

desi local, with undertones of inferiority; of superiority when compared with some non-local items

di amoen drink the gods

diyat blood money

eddeh a two- or three-month waiting period observed by Muslim women on divorce, before re-marriage

egya full marriage

esiase to put her behind (divorce payment)

ganda filthy, dirty with undertones of natural impurity, e.g. 'ganda-kam' means dirty work

goan village or settlement

goan ki dai the village traditional birth attendant

harijans 'Children of God', Gandhi's term for the 'untouchable'. According to the ideology of caste, their very touch is polluting.

hejab the Islamic veil

hoshiyar intelligent, knowledgeable, clever

issar extreme generosity

kaam work, job

Kanouneh Vokala the Law Association

kari-to-ye a debt on the wife to be thrown away

k)k) knocking-fee

majbour neccessary

majbouri main of neccessity (literally in neccessity)

Majlis the Iranian Parliament

mpata pacification money

Mojtahed Shiia religious leader; entitled to interpret the Quranic dictum for his followers

Mojtahedin plural of Mojtahed

naal a tube or pipe, in the context of birth and new-born baby the umbilical cord

naal khatney-wali the woman who cuts the cord, the cord-cutter

na-pak naturally impure, the same as a-sudh

oman state

omanhene head of state

parda literally 'curtain', but used to describe the system of seclusion for women

parda-nashin a woman who keeps purdah; also 'respectable women who are debarred by national custom from appearing in public' (Indian Famine Code)

qanouneh Taazirat secular code relating to legal matters not specifically stated in the Quran

qassas the Iranian law of retribution

safohenes head of subordinate royal lineage

seh palat altering the pattern of a woman's birth order by prescribing treatment to ensure the sex of a foetus is male (or female).

sharm shame or embarrassment

sharm ki baat embarrassing matters

soma gya a marriage established by the payment of k)k)

Thanh Tam agony aunt

ti nza head rum, a form of marriage payment

ti sika head money

tutu prostitute

Unani or Greek (medicine) a system of sophisticated 'high culture' medicine brought to India by Mogul invaders from the Middle East and associated with Muslim culture

yishuv the pre-state Jewish settlement in Palestine

zabandar behaving in a speaking manner

zahal Israel defence army