

How does Islam see widows and orphans?

Islam appreciates and values widows especially those who keep bringing up their children, the prophet (Blessings and peace of God be upon him) promised such women to be with him at his degree in paradise, he (Blessings and peace of God be upon him) said: "Me and a lively woman like these two (fingers) at the Day of Judgment, (he pointed by the middle finger and the forefinger), a woman who becomes a widow after her husband while she has a good position and still pretty and keeps herself bringing up her children until they grow up or die."^[1]

It is well-known that among the reasons why Islam encourages polygamy is to urge men to marry the widows of martyrs who died defending Islam to help them bringing up their children and also brothers' widows to help bringing up their nephews properly.

As for orphans, God honors them so much as He made just rubbing an orphan's head softens one's heart, and supporting an orphan deserves nothing but paradise, God urges to keep the rights of orphans and He warns people from taking their wealth, He says:

4:10 "Those who unjustly eat up the property of orphans, eat up a Fire into their own bodies: They will soon be enduring a Blazing Fire!"

Islamic legislation as being more caring and concerning, put a perfect great law concerning all the orphans' issues. No other international law ever matches the Islamic law for orphans until they are mature and can keep and be responsible for their own properties.

^[1] Narrated by Imam Ahmed after Awf Ibn-Malek.