

said,

"If a man wants to betroth a woman, he can look at what entices him to accomplish his marriage."

[Reported by Abu Dawud]

"If a man wants to betroth a woman, he can look at her even if she does not know."<sup>12</sup>

## **Medical Check up Before Marriage**

### **Prophetic Hadith:**

"One should run away from the leper as one runs away from a lion."

[Reported by Al-Bukhari]

"A patient not comes close to a healthy one."<sup>13</sup>

[Reported by Al-Bukhari]

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<sup>12</sup> Scholars disagree as to what parts of a woman's body a man is allowed to look at. Some hold that a man who wants to marry a woman can only look at her face and hands. Abu Dawud said that such a person is allowed to look at the whole body. Ahmad Ibn Hanbal says, "There is no harm if he wants to look at her unveiled i.e., displaying what she is used to display while working at home such as a head, a neck, arms, and chin. This is because the Prophet permits the man to look at his prospective bride, even if she does not give her permission to do so. In such a state some parts other than the face and the hand often appear. Just as a man is allowed to look at his prospective bride, a woman's guardian should also check the groom's righteousness and good manners.

<sup>13</sup> The above-mentioned Hadiths draw the attention to the seriousness of the infectious diseases. Therefore there must be a medical check up before marriage. Particularly, to check the fertility of the prospective bride or groom and whether he is impotent or not. There must also be some medical examinations like RH.

# Undercutting Another's Betrothal<sup>14</sup>

## **Qur'anic verses:**

{Do not transgress limits; for Allah loves not transgressors.}

[Al-Baqarah: 190]

{And those who annoy believing men and women undeservedly, bear (on themselves) a calumny and a glaring sin.}

[Al-Ahzab: 58]

## **Prophetic Hadiths:**

None should ask the hand of a lady who is already engaged to his brother (Muslim), but one should wait until the first suitor marries her or leaves her.

[Reported by Al-Bukhari]

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<sup>14</sup> It is unlawful to propose marriage to a woman to whom another has already done so, if the first proposal has been openly accepted, unless the first suitor gives his permission. But if the first suitor's proposal was not openly accepted, then a second suitor may propose to her. It is also permissible for one to propose to a woman to whom another has already done so, if the first suitor is corrupt. This is to save the woman from his corruption. Thus, whoever is asked about what kind of person a prospective groom is should truthfully mention his defects.